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The other Justin

Trudeaumania 2.0.

Liberal leadership hopeful coming to city for weekend rally

SHANE GIBSON
shane.gibson@metronews.ca

Apparently it's nothing but heartthrobs named Justin in Winnipeg this week.

After pop phenomenon Justin Bieber's sold-out show at the MTS Centre Thursday night had teenage girls swooning, political phenomenon and Liberal leadership contender Justin Trudeau is scheduled to appear at a rally in the city Saturday.

"He's coming into town to meet people, to touch base with people in Manitoba, and to start things going in terms of the organization of the Manitoba Trudeau campaign," said Manitoba Liberal Leader and MLA for River Heights Dr. Jon Gerrard. "I think that Justin is tremendous among young people and it's really important to get young people involved."

Trudeau announced his intention to run for the leadership of the Liberal Party of Canada earlier this month, and supporters hope the 40-year-old can recreate the "Trudeaumania" that swept his father into office in a landslide Liberal election win in 1968. Pierre Trudeau remained prime minister, except for a short interruption in 1979-80, until 1984.

On Monday, Gerrard publicly announced his support for Trudeau's leadership bid.

"He's a friend, and we worked together several years ago on Gerard Kennedy's campaign to be the Liberal leader," said Gerrard. "Justin has been a good friend to Manitoba Liberals ... and I just feel he's the right person for this time for Canada."

Liberals will vote for their next leader at a convention on April 14.

The rally is free for all to attend and gets underway at the Punjab Banquet Hall & Restaurant at 94 Mandalay Dr. at 3 p.m.

WITH FILES FROM TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

ANDREW VAUGHN/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

Follow Shane Gibson on Twitter @tsgibson

BIEBER DELIGHTS

After performing a sold-out show at the MTS Centre Thursday night, it was rumoured Justin Bieber would be receiving the key to the city from Mayor Sam Katz on Friday. City hall staffers had announced the key would be given to "a special guest." However, the honour will end up going to dancer and choreographer Twyla Tharp. CANDACE WARD/FOR METRO

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NEWS 1

Christmas Cheer Board gets a gift

Important role. Thousands of families rely on board for a happier Christmas

BERNICE PONTANILLA
bernice.pontanilla@metronews.ca

The Manitoba Métis Federation's offer of warehouse space to the Christmas Cheer Board has come "in the nick of time," says executive director Kai Madsen.

"I'm overwhelmed," said Madsen, adding that he's spent months trying to find a spot for this upcoming season and, with no offers coming in, he was beginning to wonder if he would.

"This is awesome, we're all tickled pink."

The MMF is donating 37,000 square feet of space at a warehouse on Sutherland, which was acquired on Sept. 1 from American owners, for the Cheer Board to use starting Nov. 1.

Madsen said the huge space is "an amazing bonus for us because it allows us a great deal of flexibility" to make hampers.

MMF president David Chartrand CONTRIBUTED

In 2011 the Cheer Board made 19,509 hampers, reaching thousands of disadvantaged children.

MMF president David Chartrand said his organization knew of the Cheer Board's struggles and wanted to offer the space because "every child should have Christmas."

"That's something I believe in my heart and in my head," said Chartrand. "It's not just about Métis children, it's about every child (having Christmas)."

Chartrand also challenged the three levels of government and Winnipeg's private sector to help find a permanent home for the Cheer Board.

"We're going to be working not just this year, but next year for the longevity of the Cheer Board," he said.

For a huge number of Winnipeg families, losing the Christmas Cheer Board would be "like Santa Claus going away," added Chartrand.

Kai Madsen now has a spot to run the Christmas Cheer Board, thanks to the Manitoba Métis Federation. METRO FILE

Mayor Sam Katz, bottom, sold his company back to CAO Phil Sheegl, top. METRO FILE

Duddy Enterprises. Mayor sells dormant company back to city CAO, report says

Mayor Sam Katz has sold back the company he controversially purchased from the city's Chief Administrative Officer Phil Sheegl, CBC Manitoba reported on Thursday.

According to Arizona Corporation Commission documents obtained by the CBC, Sheegl reacquired Duddy Enterprises LLC on Sept. 22.

In September, Katz said the Arizona-based company that he bought for $1 was dormant and that he should have started one on his own.

"If I had to do this again, I would have paid the three or four thousand dollars, found a lawyer and boom, done that, no doubt about that," said Katz on Sept. 12, following an executive policy committee meeting at city hall.

Katz purchased Duddy Enterprises LLC last March.

METRO

Report

City places 68th in small-biz ranking

A report released by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business shows Winnipeg lagging behind other cities, including Brandon.

The annual Communities in Boom: Canada's Top Entrepreneurial Cities report, released on Monday, has the Manitoba capital ranked 68th and Brandon in 27th spot.

Janine Carmichael, the CFIB's director of provincial affairs for Manitoba, said the report looked at 103 municipalities, using 14 indicators within three themes: Presence, perspective and policy.

"The way I would characterize it is there's room for improvement," Carmichael said of Winnipeg's showing. "A lot of these indicators are not under the control of city councillors, but some of them are."

Carmichael said small-business owners want to see the City of Winnipeg take action on many fronts, especially taxes, to spur entrepreneurship.

"We are now one of the few remaining municipalities that still levies an extra business tax," she said, adding small businesses already pay property taxes. "We need a strategy to get rid of that."

Edward Suzuki, senior manager of information and research for Economic Development Winnipeg, says his group is taking a close look at the CFIB's report.

However, in the city's defence, Suzuki says other performance markers, such as innovation, are missing from the report.

"It doesn't really complete the total picture," said Suzuki. "What we're more concerned about is how we're growing and changing over time.... I think we're doing pretty good."

BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

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Crime. Fifth arrest made in beating death of Winnipeg teen

Paris Bruce FACEBOOK.COM

Winnipeg police have arrested a fifth man in connection with the beating death of Paris Bruce last month.

Bruce, 16, was found in the 300 block of Aberdeen Avenue around 8 a.m. Sept. 4 after neighbours reported a serious assault.

At the time, police said they believed the homicide — the city's 21st of the 2012 — was gang-related.

Michael James Guimond, 34, Richard Daniel Beaulieu, 36, Warner Dairren Flett, 24 and Gregory James Myerion, 37, all of Winnipeg, have previously each been charged with manslaughter in the homicide.

On Wednesday police arrested and charged Colin Ray Monkman, 18, with manslaughter due to his alleged involvement in the killing.

The investigation is ongoing by members of the homicide unit, and police haven't ruled out the possibility of more arrests. METRO

Gaming marathon. Gamers to stay up all night for a good cause

Gamers will be owning their rivals for a good cause this weekend, as the fourth annual Gaming Marathon takes place this Saturday.

Funds raised during the event will benefit the Children's Miracle Network, which supports the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba.

Called Extra-Life, participants can register for free at extra-life.org.

"We are super excited about this brand new fundraiser coming to Manitoba," said Gary Rozak, director of development at the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba, in a press release.

"By taking part in the Extra-Life marathon, you are helping the children of Manitoba."

But the games aren't just limited to online and video. Participants are invited to play board games and even cellphone games for 24 hours and collect pledges from family, friends and coworkers.

Visit blog.childrensmiracletworkhospitals.org for more information. METRO

No more 10-digit dialing reminders

Goodbye to the voice. Metro reporter laments the loss of recorded announcement reminding callers to add area code when dialing

SHANE GIBSON
shane.gibson@metronews.ca

There was something about the gentle way she assured me that my call would "now proceed" that had me mesmerized from the very first time I heard her recorded voice.

Like many forgetful Manitobans who just couldn't get used to dialing 204 before a phone number, I've become quite accustomed to — if not a little enamoured with — the voice that has playfully scolded me for my absent-mindedness, and then connected my call anyway throughout the summer.

But after this weekend my summer fling is over.

Starting this Saturday, 10-digit dialing will become mandatory for all local calls across the province, making way for the official launch of Manitoba's new 431 area code Nov. 3.

Reporter Shane Gibson will remember the voice after she's gone this weekend. ELISHA DACEY/METRO

"We are pleased with the participation rates among Manitoba residents," I read in a press release this week from Glenn Pilley, spokesperson for the Canadian Numbering Administrator, through teary eyes. "However, we must highlight the need for callers to ensure that all numbers stored in communication systems and devices ... have been programmed for 10-digit dialing.

"This will help avoid any disruptions after the cut-off date."

I read and re-read the press release, but there was no mention of where the voice will go after the weekend, or whether she'll miss me.

Perhaps she's moved on, and I should too.

I tried calling both MTS and the Telecommunications Alliance — who've spearheaded the public-awareness campaign — but no one could tell me who the voice was or where she'll go next.

So, farewell voice, it was fun. I'll remember you every time I forget to dial 204 and then the number.

Woman charged with setting fire that killed five to plead guilty

A woman charged with setting a fire that killed five people in a Winnipeg rooming house is set to enter guilty pleas.

Lulonda Flett, 41, was charged with five counts of second-degree murder and three counts of attempted murder after the July 2011 fire at the home in the city's Point Douglas district.

Flett's lawyer, Darren Sawchuk, says she will appear in court Monday where new information on the case will be presented, and she will plead guilty to different charges than second-degree murder.

Sawchuk would not say whether the charges have been reduced as part of a plea bargain and refused to comment further.

At the time of Flett's arrest, police said witnesses told them Flett had been in an altercation with someone at the rooming house. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Missing-women's summit should be open to local reps: Man. Chiefs

National conference. Aboriginal groups say help lies in community organizations

Manitoba aboriginal leaders say they face a closed door at an upcoming conference on missing and murdered women that includes provincial governments and national First Nations leaders.

"They seem to be planning a high-level event, bringing guests in from national aboriginal organizations, and being content in excluding regional and local perspectives," Derek Nepinak, grand chief of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, said Thursday.

"I think that for far too long, people have observed these boardroom tables at 35,000 feet, parachuting solutions into our communities. And, unfortunately, I don't think that's the answer. The answer comes from ... community-based organizations."

Nepinak said the Manitoba government, which is host to the National Aboriginal Women's Summit Nov. 1 and 2 in Winnipeg, has told him there is no room for regional or local groups at the meeting.

The summit, the third of its kind in the last seven years, includes provincial and territorial ministers responsible for aboriginal affairs or the status of women, as well as national groups such as the Assembly of First Nations. Previous meetings have focused primarily on social conditions faced by aboriginal women.

Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs Minister Eric Robinson said the summit is aimed at national groups, but appeared willing to compromise for the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hot rod! Young driver uninjured as engine bursts into fire

No one was injured after a car burst into flames while being driven near the corner of Portage Avenue and Main Street on Thursday. The 18-year-old driver of the silver 2003 Volkswagen Passat, who identified himself as Sage, told Metro he'd been driving south on Main Street shortly before 5 p.m. when the engine suddenly caught fire. The Passat was his first car and he'd bought it just two months ago. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Winnipeg's Rooster Town getting a second look

A picture of Rooster Town. CONTRIBUTED

Winnipeggers with recollections of Rooster Town are being asked to contact a University of Winnipeg professor and a Manitoba Métis Federation historian.

Rooster Town rose out of the Great Depression along Grant Avenue and Waverley Street, when mostly Métis families built small houses or purchased wooden boxcars from the railroad and turned them into homes.

However, these homes did not have city services such as water and sewer lines.

Some remember it differently

"We have found quite a few people who remember Rooster Town as a vibrant Métis community."

Dr. Evelyn Peters, U of W prof. and Canada Research Chair for inner-city research, community learning and engagement

Seasonal railroad workers also took up temporary residence there, viewing it as a place to "roost" or rest, which led to the settlement's name.

"It is an interesting story, because in the 1940s and '50s the Winnipeg Tribune and Winnipeg Free Press had a number of articles on Rooster Town, depicting the area mainly in terms of poverty, welfare dependence and disease, and in 1959 the City of Winnipeg expropriated the remaining houses and tore down what remained of the community," said Dr. Evelyn Peters, U of W prof and Canada Research Chair for inner-city research, community learning and engagement, in a press release.

"However, we have found quite a few people who remember Rooster Town as a vibrant Métis community, presenting quite a different view of the shanty town than the mainstream one."

Peters, who is working in partnership with Lawrie Barkwell, senior historian for the Louis Riel Institute of the Manitoba Métis Federation, said these families "owned or rented their houses, paid taxes and worked in seasonal jobs, including working for the City of Winnipeg."

BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

Get in touch

- Those wishing to share their stories with Peters and Barkwell are asked to call 204-982-4811 or 204-984-9480, or email ej.peters@uwinnipeg.ca or lbarkwell@mmf.mb.ca.

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High Five! The West End Cultural Centre is celebrating its 25th birthday this weekend, but as much as anniversaries are a time for reflection, they're also a time for looking forward. Here are five exciting shows coming up at the WECC

JARED STORY
winnipeg@metronews.ca

5 shows to see at the WECC

1

The Pack A.D. — Oct. 31

This Vancouver girl garage-rock duo is profusely productive. The prolific pair — made up of singer-guitarist Becky Black and drummer Maya Miller — are currently working on their fifth studio album since 2008. Projected for a spring 2013 release, the new record is being recorded in Detroit with producer Jim Diamond, best known for his work on the first two White Stripes albums. To hear The Water, a song from the Pack A.D.'s forthcoming full-length release, visit thepackad.com.

2

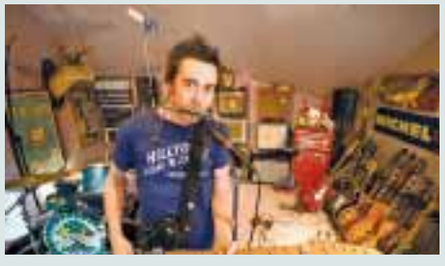
Rose Cousins — Nov. 7

She's from P.E.I. and based in Halifax, but it appears the place Cousins loves the most is Boston. The folk-pop singer-songwriter released a short film, If I Should Fall Behind, which deals with how Beantown was a source of inspiration during the production of her latest album, We Have Found a Spark. Recorded by Boston boy Zack Hickman — of Josh Ritter's backing band — the album fittingly features a cover of Bruce Springsteen's If I Should Fall Behind. Visit rosecousins.com.

3

Danny Michel — Nov. 13

This Juno-nominated singer-songwriter is no stranger to the WECC, having recorded Live in Winnipeg at the venue in 2010. That being said, Michel's latest album, Black Birds are Dancing Over Me, is about as far away from the 'Peg as you can get. Recorded in Belize in the town of Benque Viejo del Carmen, the album features Mayan guitar, turtle shells, donkey jaw-bone, and Garifuna segunda and primero drums. Visit dannymichel.com.



4

The Wooden Sky — Nov. 27

This Toronto indie-rock band recorded its third album, Every Child a Daughter, Every Moon a Sun, with former Arcade Fire member Howard Bilerman at Montreal's iconic Hotel-2Tango recording studio. That's a long way from Morden, Man., where singer Gavin Gardiner is originally from. Fun fact: The Wooden Sky often ends its shows with a cover of Tom Petty's American Girl. Visit thewoodenskymusic.com.

5

Meaghan Smith — Nov. 28

This Canadian singer-songwriter's sophomore album, 2011's It Snowed, features renditions of Christmas classics like Little Drummer Boy, Silent Night and Baby, It's Cold Outside, but also holiday originals like Zat U Santa Claus and the title track. A star on the rise, Smith's independently recorded debut album, The Cricket's Orchestra, was picked up by Sire/Warner in 2010, she contributed a cover of the Pixies' Here

Comes Your Man to the (500) Days of Summer soundtrack, and she won best new artist at the 2011 Junos. Visit meaghansmith.com.

West End Cultural Centre artistic director Jason Hooper has two special shows planned for the venue's 25th anniversary. CONTRIBUTED

WECC 25 years young

Music. Two weekend shows recognize past, present and future of cultural centre

JARED STORY
winnipeg@metronews.ca

Winnipeg arts venue the West End Cultural Centre celebrates its 25th anniversary with two special shows this weekend.

The birthday party begins Friday when progressive thrash band Propagandhi plays the WECC stage, supported by "surf noir" act This Hisses and "grindcore" group Head Hits Concrete.

"The history of loud music in this building goes way back," WECC artistic director Jason Hooper said. "As a youth, I attended the afternoon punk-rock shows. I saw Jawbreaker and J Church here, as well as Propagandhi on different occasions. Loud music has definitely been a part of people's experience in coming to the WECC so it's important to recognize that."

On a lighter note, Saturday's show will feature collaborative performances from members of Winnipeg's folk and roots music community.

"Our motto for the year is great music, culture and community, so I wanted to reflect those ideas by having our community of songwriters come together and select other songwriters within the community to pay tribute to," Hooper added.

Each team will cover two songs by another Manitoban artist. The partnerships include Nathan vocalist Keri Latimer with acoustic folk band Red Moon Road, soul singer JD Edwards with former Wailin' Jennys member Cara Luft, and folk musician Nathan Rogers with hip-hop artist and CBC Radio personality Ismaila Alfa.

"It's an honour considering the big names that have been in that building and the fact that my first real solo rap show was at the West End Cultural Centre when I was 17 years old," Alfa said.

"When Jason contacted me I was quite honoured, but I think I might have asked him 'Are you sure you want me?' because it seems like people may be expecting more folk artists. However, he said he wants to nod to the future as well, where Manitoba music is going."

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Britain looking for spy kids

Apprentice 007s.
British program open to bright 18-year-olds who will undergo technical training and work placements

How's this for a job title — secret agent's apprentice.

The British government is recruiting teenage apprentice spies and codebreakers without university degrees in a bid to deepen the talent pool of its intelligence services for the era of cyber-terorrism and cyber-warfare.

Foreign Secretary William Hague announced the program Thursday in a speech at Bletchley Park, Britain's Second World War code-breaking headquarters.

"Young people are the key to our country's future success, just as they were during the war," Hague said.

"It will be the young innovators of this generation who will help keep our country safe in years to come against threats which are every bit as serious as some of those confronted in the Second World War."

The Foreign Office said the apprenticeship program aims to find up to 100 new recruits for GCHQ — Britain's electronic surveillance agency — and the MI5 and MI6 intelligence services. The idea is to expand recruitment of spies beyond the traditional method of a discreet "tap on the shoulder" at university.

The program will be open to bright 18-year-olds with backgrounds in science, technology, engineering and even computer gaming. They will undergo a two-year course of university classes, technical training and work placements before starting full-time jobs.

High-school students will also be invited to take part in a "national cipher challenge" competition intended to inspire pupils to consider careers in mathematics and cyber-security.

The Foreign Office said the goal was to "harness the expertise of its young people, who have grown up with a world of social media, global connectivity and interactive gaming, to make sure we can tackle the threats and challenges of the 21st century."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This 2009 file photo shows Mike Hillyard, one of the volunteers who rebuilt a replica of the Turing Bombe machine that played a crucial part in cracking the Nazi Enigma Code, standing by the machine at Bletchley Park in Milton Keynes, England. The British government is recruiting apprentice spies and codebreakers without university degrees in a bid to deepen the talent pool of its intelligence services. AKIRA SUEMORI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Anti-marijuana ad racist and inaccurate, says Williams

Montel Williams supports legalizing medical marijuana.
DANNY JOHNSTON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Talk show host Montel Williams accused an ad against legalizing medical marijuana of resorting to "racism" after the commercial depicted an African-American drug dealer.

Williams, an outspoken supporter of medical marijuana, appeared Thursday at the state capital alongside members of Arkansans for Compassionate Care, which is campaigning for Arkansas' legalization measure on the Nov. 6 ballot. He criticized an ad aired by a coalition of conservative groups that opposes the proposal.

"Offensive is really an understatement. It's the most egregiously racist, false statement you've ever seen in your life," Williams said. "They've (got) people sitting in a picture holding guns, talking about medical marijuana, and of course they happen to be of different colours to make sure you're as irritated and angry as you can be."

Jerry Cox, the president of the Arkansas Family Council and a member of the coalition, denied that the ad was aimed at stoking any kind of racial animus and defended the spot as accurate. Cox noted that the ad also features white actors portraying marijuana users.

"Sure, he wanted to seize on that, but that's not the message we're sending," Cox said. "We're sending a message that this harmful act is going to affect every family in this state if it passes."

If passed, the Arkansas measure would allow patients with qualifying conditions to buy marijuana from non-profit dispensaries with a doctor's recommendation. If approved, Arkansas would become the first Southern state to legalize medical marijuana.

Under the proposal, qualifying health conditions would include cancer, glaucoma, HIV, AIDS and Alzheimer's disease. The proposal also would allow qualifying patients or a designated caregiver to grow marijuana if the patient lives more than five miles from a dispensary.

Past efforts to put medical marijuana on the ballot in Arkansas have faltered, though voters in two cities in the state have approved referendums that encourage police to regard arrests for small amounts of marijuana as a low priority.

The proposal faces opposition from law-enforcement groups and the state's top elected officials. Gov. Mike Beebe, a Democrat, has said he's opposed to the measure and is worried about the additional cost to the state.

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Omnibus budget changes. Big bill tables widespread revisions and reductions

The latest omnibus budget bill from the Harper government makes changes to everything from the Indian Act and the Canadian Labour Code to the Canada Shipping Act.

The bill kills off independent tribunals that examined things such as hazardous materials in the workplace and set the rates for employment insurance premiums, while making workers pay taxes on their employers' contributions to group health and accident insurance plans.

It also sharply reduces project approvals required under the Navigable Waters Protection Act, sets time limits on worker complaints under the Canada Labour Code and makes additional changes to an Environmental Assessment Act that was essentially rewritten by the Conservative government last spring.

It lays out a whole new act for the building of a new bridge from Windsor, Ont., to Detroit, while exempting the project from "a number of federal laws under which permits, approvals or authorizations would normally be required."

The bill — the second of two massive implementation acts based on the March federal budget — contains no surprises, said Finance Minister Jim Flaherty, who angrily accused the opposition of being too lazy to read last spring's federal spending blueprint.

"If you haven't read the budget ... I don't know what you did all summer.... Do your job," he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Opposition

In response to Finance Minister Jim Flaherty's comments, citing the words of a young Stephen Harper, opposition MPs responded that the sprawling omnibus bill is exactly what's preventing them from doing their job — examining proposed legislation in detail and depth.

Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty speaks during question period in the House of Commons in Ottawa, Thursday. The minister's contentious omnibus budget bill is the focus of intense criticism from the opposition. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Calgary couple who survived Costa Concordia wreck 'hope for justice'

Finding peace after trauma. Passenger who opted to swim for safety rather than abandon her husband awaits results of inquiry

JEREMY NOLAIS
Metro in Calgary

Survival was only the beginning.

That's the working title of a book Andrea Davis is penning about her ordeal aboard the ill-fated Costa Concordia cruise ship, and the subsequent struggle upon returning home to Calgary.

Davis and her husband, Laurence, had only just ordered a bottle of wine at a dining hall aboard the massive vessel when it smashed into rocks off the Tuscan Island of Giglio on Jan. 13.

With water pouring into the ship, Davis refused to separate from her husband and take one remaining seat aboard a lifeboat. Instead, the couple swam for shore together, spending more than 20 minutes in frigid water.

Back at home, Davis was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder.

In July, the couple returned to the island for the first time since the wreck to view the ship, still overturned at sea, and meet with some of the locals, who embraced them with open arms.

"I knew that this was a medical prescription for me, something I needed to do ... to walk across the rocks, to see the path that we had climbed through on that dark and scary night, to see how far we were from land, to see the sunken ship and this horrific, rested memorial of our trauma," she said.

The Davises have been watching closely as an inquiry into the Concordia wreck and the actions of Capt. Francesco Schettino, who could stand trial for multiple counts of manslaughter and abandoning ship, got underway this week.

"We hope for justice ... everyone in this world deserves justice," Davis said.

Thirty-two people died in the Costa Concordia tragedy.

Andrea Davis plants a kiss on her grandson after arriving at Calgary International Airport in January, days after surviving the Costa Concordia shipwreck. METRO FILE

In it together

"They had one spot (on the lifeboat) and they asked Andrea if she wanted to come in, and we looked at each other and decided we're in this together. 'There's no way we're separating.'"

Costa Concordia shipwreck survivor Laurence Davis
After about a 20-minute swim in frigid water, Davis and his wife, Andrea, made it to shore with minor scrapes.

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Washington

Evacuation at presidential daughters' school

The D.C. private school attended by the daughters of President Barack Obama says it was briefly evacuated after it received a phone call that it considered suspicious. Sidwell Friends said in a message on its website Thursday afternoon that students and teachers returned to class after law enforcement determined there was no threat. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Connecticut

A bad sign

An 80-year-old U.S. woman has been arrested after tearing down political signs showing an image of President Barack Obama with an Adolf Hitler-style moustache. Nancy Lack tells WVIT-TV she was offended and took down three posters that were hung last week near the post office. Workers for frequent presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche, who were putting up the signs, called police. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Obama was potential target in foiled terror plot: Source

Terror sting. Undercover agent posing as jihadist intervenes with FBI team after 21-year-old exposes plan to blow up the Federal Reserve

Quazi Mohammad Rezwanul Ahsan Nafis, inset, snared Wednesday in an FBI terror sting, considered targeting U.S. President Barack Obama and the New York City Stock Exchange before settling on a car-bomb attack on the Federal Reserve. SETH WENIG/THE

A Bangladeshi man snared in an FBI terror sting considered targeting U.S. President Barack Obama before settling on a car-bomb attack on the Federal Reserve in New York City, a law-enforcement official told The Associated Press on Thursday.

The official, who was not authorized to speak publicly about the investigation and talked to the AP on condition of anonymity, stressed that the suspect never got beyond the discussion stage.

In a September meeting with an undercover agent posing as a fellow jihadist, Quazi Mohammad Rezwanul Ahsan Nafis explained he chose the Federal Reserve as his car-bomb target "for operational reasons," according to a criminal complaint. Nafis also indicated he knew that choice would "cause a large number of civilian casualties, including women and children," the complaint said. He had also considered the New York Stock Exchange as a target.

The bomb was phoney, but authorities alleged that Nafis's admiration of Osama bin Laden and aspirations for martyrdom were not.

FBI agents grabbed the 21-year-old Nafis — armed with a cellphone he believed was rigged as a detonator — after he made several attempts to blow up a fake 1,000-pound bomb inside a vehicle parked next to the Federal Reserve Wednesday in lower Manhattan, the complaint said.

Nafis is a banker's son from a middle-class neighbourhood, and family members said Thursday that they were stunned by his arrest. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Charges

- **Charges.** Nafis appeared in federal court in Brooklyn on Wednesday to face charges of attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction and attempting to provide material support to al-Qaida. Wearing a brown T-shirt and black jeans, he was ordered held without bail and did not enter a plea. His defence attorney had no comment outside court.

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Fear not mama, we're just trying to help

Baby elephant rescue. Kenyan national park video goes viral — with good reason

In this Oct. 8 video image, Vicki Fishlock of the Amboseli Trust for Elephants is seen in the rear-view mirror as a mother elephant stands by her baby who is stuck in a hole at Kenya's Amboseli National Park. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

How do you pull a baby elephant out of a deep, muddy hole? A rope and a Land Rover. Then the payoff: A frantic baby elephant sprint to mom.

A heartwarming video of the rescue of a baby elephant in a Kenyan national park gained a mass of viewers on Thursday. The video shows the rescuers' potentially dangerous faceoff with the mother elephant and their struggle to get her calf out of a 1.5-metre hole.

Vicki Fishlock of the Amboseli Trust for Elephants faced down the mother with her Land Rover, and made a high-pitched aye-aye-aye call to drive the mother off. Thirty muddy minutes later, after two men struggled to get a rope around the eight-month-old calf, Fishlock put her SUV in reverse and pulled the animal out.

The uplifting conclusion to the rescue video shows the baby sprinting to reunite with its family. Despite the confrontation Fishlock thinks the mother elephant understood in the end that humans were only trying to help. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

See for yourself

Visit metronews.ca to watch the video of the rescue.

Getting their feet wet as political activists

Jacquie Ayala, left, and Amanda Lawrence stand in a flooded street as they call on U.S. presidential candidates to talk about their plans to fight climate change on Thursday in Miami Beach, Fla. JOE RAEDLE/GETTY IMAGES

Havana. Amidst poor-health rumours, Cuba publishes letters from Fidel Castro

Cuban news media on Thursday published the first new writing in months from retired Cuban leader Fidel Castro.

The letter, which was dated Wednesday, comes in the wake of rumours that prompted relatives in both Cuba and Miami to deny that the health of the 86-year-old ex-president was critical.

Castro has not been seen in public since video images showed him greeting a visiting Pope Benedict XVI in late March, and the last of his essays known as Reflections was published June 19.

In the letter published by the Communist Party daily Granma, Castro congratulated students of a Cuban medical institute on its 50th anniversary and recalled how just days after it opened in 1962, it was converted into an anti-aircraft installation during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Castro, whose revolution seized power in Cuba in 1959, left office in 2006 due to a life-threatening intestinal condition. His younger brother Raul now serves as president.

But even in retirement and largely out of sight, he continues to cast a long shadow.

Castro's Reflections, essays and ruminations on everything from international current affairs to the remarkable flexibility of yoga masters, are printed in all state-run newspapers and read word-for-word at the top of news broadcasts.

His four-month public silence is not unprecedented, but the rumour mill picked up steam last week after he did not publicly congratulate close ally Hugo Chavez on winning a hard-fought re-election campaign in Venezuela.

Late last week, Castro's son and sister both denied that his health was in danger, and state media said a wreath in his name was placed at the final resting place of independence hero Jose Marti on a holiday marking Cuba's independence from Spanish colonial rule.

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Outer space

Martian soil has NASA wondering

NASA's Mars rover Curiosity has dug up a mini-mystery for scientists: An odd white fleck that sticks out like a beacon in the reddish soil.

It looks out of place, but scientists said Thursday that it's probably just a different-hued bit of Martian soil. Curiosity will use its camera and instruments to try to learn more about what it is.

It is only one millimetre in size and was spotted after the rover used its mechanical scoop to dig up some dust. Curiosity will use its camera and instruments to try to learn more about what it is. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A small pit created by NASA's Mars rover Curiosity. NASA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Colombia vs. rebels

Talks in Oslo mark the first in 10 years

Colombia's first peace talks in a decade were inaugurated a half a world away on Thursday with a demonstration of just how differently the government and a rebel group view their nearly half-century-old conflict.

The Oslo talks were brief, symbolic, largely perfunctory and held at a secret venue. They lasted seven hours and were followed by word that substantive talks will begin Nov. 15 in the Cuban capital of Havana and will first tackle "comprehensive agrarian development." The government's lead negotiator, Humberto de la Calle, sought to set a businesslike, cordial tone in brief remarks at a joint news conference at a lakeside hotel north of Oslo.

He said the government seeks "mutual dignified treatment" in the talks and doesn't expect the sides to see eye-to-eye ideologically. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Restaurateurs torn over texting, tweeting, snapping

Taking on the digital crowd. Owners split over the use of cellphones in their restaurants

The digital divide is wider than ever between diners who talk, tweet and snap pictures mid-meal and those who wish they'd just shut up, shut down and be present.

Caught at the centre of the discord are restaurant owners and chefs, who must walk the careful line of good customer service for both those who dine under the influence of smart phones, and those who won't. But as the devices have morphed into an unrelenting appendage for texting, photography and games, more restaurateurs are challenged to keep the peace.

Owners who once relied mostly on "No Cellphones, Please" signs are increasingly experimenting with everything from penalties for using phones, discounts for not and outright bans on photography.

"There's no place to get away from the chatter," said Julie Liberty of Miami, who started the Facebook page "Ban Cell Phones From Restaurants" earlier this year. "Everything has a soundtrack, including when you go into the ladies room. That's just not right."

Some restaurateurs go with the digital flow. Sarabeth Levine, of New York City-based Sarabeth's, said she's perfectly fine with people chatting, playing games or even taking pictures. It's free advertising, after all.

"I'm happy to have our customers," Levine said. "They come, they tweet, they Facebook, they bring their children. It's high energy to begin with. I mean, people are noisy even in the way they speak today."

Others take a middle ground, like the high-end Washington, D.C., restaurant Rogue 24, where hostesses politely tell guests that if they do take pictures, please do so without a distracting flash.

"I mean, you can't fight it," said owner R. J. Cooper. "Why fight a losing battle?" THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A sign at the Hamilton Street Café advises customers about the cellphone policy at their restaurant in Albany, N.Y. MIKE GROLL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Scout 'perversion files' made public

Alleged abuse.
Thousands of pages of documented sex-abuse allegations involving the Boy scouts were released Thursday

U.S. Boy Scout leaders, police officials, prosecutors and mayors helped hush up numerous child sex-abuse allegations against scoutmasters and other volunteers, according to details in a trove of nearly 15,000 pages of so-called "perversion files" compiled by the Scouts from 1959 to the mid-1980s.

Portland attorney Kelly Clark released the files on Thursday online.

The Associated Press obtained copies of the files weeks in advance and conducted an extensive review of them.

The files document allegations of sex abuse by Scouting volunteers across the country. The Scouts have been collecting the documents since the early 1900s and continue to do so.

At a news conference, Clark blasted the Boy Scouts for their continuing legal battles to try to keep the full collection of files secret.

"You do not keep secrets hidden about dangers to children," said Clark, who in 2010 won a landmark lawsuit against the Boy Scouts on behalf of a plaintiff who was molested by an assistant scoutmaster in the 1980s.

Clark's colleague, Paul Mones, said the files in the Portland case represent "the pain and anguish of thousands of Scouts" who were abused by Scout leaders.

The two attorneys were releasing all 14,500 documents used in the Portland case at their website: kellyclarkattorney.com.

Clark has been in possession of the files since he represented a Portland man who was abused by his assistant scoutmaster in the 1980s. That lawsuit culminated in a jury finding in his client's favour in 2010.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kelly Clark
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Apology. Dunham says sorry for tweet about Bernardo and Homolka

Girls star Lena Dunham is apologizing for making a Paul Bernardo joke on Twitter that drew immediate fire from Canadian fans.

The 26-year-old HBO phenom suggested she and her celebrity friends dress up as Bernardo, Karla Homolka and one of their victims for Halloween.

She said in a tweet to fellow comics Mindy Kaling and B.J. Novak: "You guys go as killer Canadian couple Paul Bernardo & Karla Homolka. I'll be her sister they murdered."

Fans complained online and even the lawyer for Bernardo's victims weighed in when contacted by a Toronto reporter, saying Dunham "crossed that line."

Dunham is now apologizing, saying in a follow-up tweet: "Obviously didn't understand what a painful part of the Canadian identity the Bernardo/Homolka case was."

Dunham has 387,579 followers on Twitter.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lena Dunham
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fame Daddy

ITV duped by sperm-bank hoax

A celebrity sperm bank? Maybe not yet.

A British television network says it was duped by an actor pretending to be the chief of celebrity paternity service Fame Daddy.

ITV's This Morning program carried an interview Wednesday with a man identified as Dan Richards. He said his company would match women with famous and affluent sperm donors.

On Thursday the network said it had been misled.

Several newspapers also ran stories about Fame Daddy, whose slick website claims a roster of donors, including an Olympic gold medallist and a Formula One driver.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Catholic scandal

Priest accused of stealing church money

Police in Croatia say they've arrested a Catholic priest who allegedly made off with more than $1 million euros of church money.

Police said Thursday they launched a criminal probe against priest Sime Nimac after the church accused him of illegally selling church land for $1.3 million and taking the sale money. They said Nimac was arrested on Wednesday in the capital of Zagreb.

The case has drawn much public attention in Croatia. Local media have reported that Nimac also ran off with a married woman who had allegedly helped him draw the money from the bank.

Jutarnji List newspaper said Nimac denied the allegations against him in a phone interview.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Broadcasting. CRTC rejects BCE's takeover of Astral

The federal broadcast regulator gave an unequivocal thumbs down to BCE Inc.'s takeover of Astral Media on Thursday, declaring in no uncertain terms the $3.4-billion deal was not good for Canadians.

The surprise announcement by the CRTC came after stock markets closed and marked the first major decision for newly installed Commissioner Jean-Pierre Blais.

Not only did Blais, who took over in late June, turn down one of the biggest takeovers ever submitted to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission, he left little doubt about where he stood, or how he would respond should BCE return with a modified but essentially similar proposal.

"BCE failed to persuade us that the deal would benefit Canadians," he said. "It would have placed significant market power in the hands of one of the country's largest media companies. "We could not have ensured a robust Canadian broadcasting system without imposing extensive and intrusive safeguards, which would have been to the detriment of the entire industry."

The CRTC said BCE — owner of Bell Canada, the CTV television network, numerous specialty stations and the former Chum radio stations — already has 33.7 per cent of the English television viewing audience.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"BCE failed to persuade us that the deal would benefit Canadians."

CRTC Commissioner Jean-Pierre Blais

Market Minute

DOLLAR 101.53¢ (-0.72¢)

TSX 12,466.12 (+4.87)

OIL $92.10 US (-2¢)

GOLD $1,744.70 US (-$8.30)

Natural gas: $3.52 US (+ 5¢)
Dow Jones: 13,548.94 (-8.06)

Another one down: Newsweek will end print run on Dec. 31

Publishing. Venerable news mag is switching to digital format, with staff cuts expected

In this file photo, pedestrians walk past the Newsweek building in New York. Newsweek announced Thursday that its print edition will be replaced by an all-digital format. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Newsweek will end its print publication after 80 years and shift to an all-digital format in early 2013.

Its last U.S. print edition will be its Dec. 31 issue. The paper version of Newsweek is the latest casualty of a changing world where readers get more of their information from websites, tablets and smartphones. It's also an environment in which advertisers are looking for less expensive alternatives online.

Newsweeklies have been in an especially tough spot at a time when people don't want to wait a week to read commentary and news digests of big stories, given a flood of instant content available online.

The announcement of the change was made Thursday by Tina Brown, editor-in-chief and founder of the Newsweek Daily Beast Co, and Baba Shetty, its CEO. Job cuts are expected.

"In our judgment, we have reached a tipping point at which we can most efficiently and effectively reach our readers in all-digital format," Brown and Shetty said on The Daily Beast website.

Newsweek's decision does not come as a surprise. Barry Diller, the head of the company that owns Newsweek, announced in July that the publication was examining its future as a weekly print magazine. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Arbiters of cool. U.K. appeal court agrees that iPad is hipper than Samsung tablet

Britain's Court of Appeal has affirmed a lower-court ruling that Samsung's Galaxy tablet computer is "not as cool" as Apple's iPad and therefore doesn't infringe Apple's rights.

The issue in the case was whether Samsung infringed on the design Apple registered in 2004.

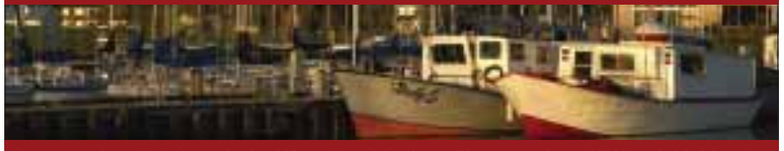
The lower court in July had declared Samsung's Galaxy computers "do not have the same understated and extreme simplicity which is possessed by the Apple design. They are not as cool."

In their ruling Thursday, all three justices who heard the appeal ordered Apple to publicize the court rulings to "dispel commercial uncertainty," and make sure consumers are not biased against Samsung.

Judge Robin Jacob wrote in the unanimous opinion: "The acknowledgement must come from the horse's mouth. Nothing short of that will be sure to do the job completely."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WMM FISHERIES CO-OPERATIVE LTD.



In recent days Bob Sopuck, the MP for Dauphin-Swan River stated on CKDM and CJ104 radio stations that he supports FFMC (Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation). He believes that FFMC does a good job of getting our fish to the market with quality and freshness preserved. Bob stated that he feels that FFMC is needed to market our fish because it is a difficult and complicated process. FFMC and Bob believe Fishermen would not be able to market their fish on their own and deliver quality to the consumers. He also stated that the majority of fishermen support FFMC, that means he thinks the majority of fishermen want FFMC only and no choice in marketing. Many Fishermen in his constituency and throughout Manitoba do not agree and we have evidence for our claims and need for marketing freedom:

- From 2006-2009 FFMC let over 376,000 kg of fresh fish spoil, some of it in trucks parked at their plant in Transcona.(http://taxpayer.com/manitoba/mb-fishy-findings-freshwater) .We feel this is yet another example of their mismanagement.
- When there is a long weekend, fish waits up to five days to be processed. As a regular occurrence, FFMC freezes Pike (Jack fish) and ships them to China where they are unthawed and Chinese workers remove the bones because of cheap labor there. This fish is then refrozen and shipped again across the ocean by boat and then to the plant in Winnipeg. In Winnipeg they are thawed again, vacuum packed and then frozen yet again before being shipped to France. This product is then sold as 'fresh' Pike fillets. By this time months may have passed and the fish has been thawed and frozen several times on their long journey – these fillets are anything but fresh.
- When we, WMM Fisheries Co-operative (a Co-op of Commercial Fishermen here in Manitoba,) were able to market some of our own fish for about half a year in 2011 we were able to deliver a high quality fresh product to our customer. We sold over 750,000 lbs in that time, doubled the income to Fishermen and did it all ourselves without government 'help' or interference. It is not as complicated a process as some would like people to believe. We can do this.
- The Fishermen in Manitoba are no different from the Farmers and the Canadian Wheat Board. In a free and democratic society all producers should have the right to choose who to sell their product to. We should not be treated as slaves, indentured to a government monopoly that does not work for us any longer.

Please visit us on Facebook at – FREE THE FISHERMEN to help us to change this.
Frank Kenyon,- Director, WMM Fisheries Co-operative Ltd., 204-659-5834

Chinese wind-farm firm accuses White House of discrimination

The Chinese company suing U.S. President Barack Obama for blocking its planned wind-farm projects in Oregon accused the U.S. leader and his government of discrimination Thursday and warned that the case would deter Chinese investment in the United States.

Last month, Obama blocked Ralls Corp.'s plan to build four wind farms near a U.S. navy base, after the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States concluded it posed security risks. It was the first time a U.S. president stepped in to halt such a foreign business deal for national-security reasons since 1990, when President George H.W. Bush scuttled the sale of a manufacturer to a Chinese agency.

Chinese construction machinery giant Sany denied that the project posed security risks and said U.S. officials were discriminating against the company because it was Chinese.

It filed a lawsuit against the U.S. government last month and added Obama's name as a defendant later. U.S. officials have said the case has no merit.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. election issue

- The case hands Obama the chance to appear tough on Chinese interests during an election campaign in which he and Republican challenger Mitt Romney have invoked China as a villain in their arguments about revitalizing the U.S. economy.

Beef recall

Union wants XL Foods' new owners to shake things up

The union representing workers at an Alberta slaughterhouse shuttered because of E. coli contamination hopes the plant's new owners come in and clean house.

Doug O'Halloran of the United Food and Commercial Workers union received cheers from workers at a news conference Thursday when he said those who have been running the XL Foods Lakeside operation — the black hats as they are known for the colour of their headgear — need to be removed.

"Some of the management people have to go," O'Halloran said. "The yellow hats are the workers. The black hats are god or think they are. We all hope some of those black hats are getting their butts kicked down the road, because they're the problem."

O'Halloran said he is cautiously optimistic about JBS USA taking over the plant in Brooks, Alta. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is reviewing how the plant is managing its E. coli procedures to determine when it can reopen.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian economy

Feds may revise growth forecast, Flaherty says

The federal government may need to downgrade its growth projections for the Canadian economy when it releases its mid-year budget update, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said Thursday.

The minister told reporters prior to tabling his budget-implementation bill that Canada's economy is holding up reasonably well, but is not immune to gathering headwinds from around the world.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SPACE JUMP IS PRETTY DOPE

THE LIST
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

Worried that you've missed the week's big news and you're feeling inadequate around the water cooler? Fear not! You've come to the right place: The Metro List, where the news lives.

1 **Felix Baumgartner.** I double-dog dare ya to climb 38 kilometres in a balloon, open the hatch and then jump out. No problem, says the Austrian daredevil, who broke the sound barrier while he was at it. Then he opened his parachute and hit the ground walking. Baumgartner says his daredevil days are done, but wasn't it another Austrian guy who said, "I'll be back"?

2 **On the other hand.** Lance Armstrong won't work in this town — or any other — again. His main sponsor, Nike, abandoned him after the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency released testimony from 11 of his former teammates, who claimed they helped him ride to seven tainted Tour de France victories. But Nike still endorses Michael Vick and Kobe Bryant, a dog killer and a man who was once accused of rape, respectively. Oh well, at least they didn't take banned substances to give themselves an unfair advantage ... right?

3 **The saddest story.** Teenager Amanda Todd went looking for love in all the wrong places, i.e. the Internet, and was hounded by the fallout until she killed herself. Before she did, she recorded a haunting video and released it on … the Internet, possibly hoping for some kind of cyber-vindication. You'd like to think her tormentors learned their lesson, but some were still online bullying her memory this week. There's enough bitter irony in this one story to last a lifetime.

4 **Hot enough for you?** By you, I mean climate-change denier, you. September was the hottest ever. In the world. If that's not enough, it was the 331st straight month with above-average temperatures. Anyone who continues to think this global-warming stuff is a hoax reminds me of that lobster sitting in a nice warm bath, and he's starting to turn pink.

5 **Rock 'em sock 'em NHL labour negotiations.** The NHL offers to share revenue 50-50 with the players, but the boys are still young enough to be able to read the fine print on the offer, so this thing ain't settled yet. But at least they're getting down to it. Timing is interesting. For most of the players, this is their first week without a paycheque. Whoa, dude.

6 **Then there's this elk.** This is not a joke. We repeat, this is not a joke. An elk has spent the last three years mooning (moo-ing?) over a herd of cows in the B.C. Interior. This year, well, he leapt the fence. Conservation officers caught him, tranquilized him and — the final indignity — sawed off his six-point antlers (safety measure), then let him go, far from the madding cows.

Felix Baumgartner, of Austria, jumps out of his capsule during his final manned flight last Sunday. The death-defying jump from a balloon 38 kilometres above Earth yielded important information about the punishing effects of extreme speed and altitude on the human body — insights that could inform space development. RED BULL STRATOS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Penguin picture wins top award

PAUL NICKLEN / VEOLIA ENVIRONNEMENT WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2012

Wildlife photography

Canadian earns global recognition

A photo titled Bubble-Jetting Emperors by Canadian photographer Paul Nicklen has won the globally acclaimed Veolia Environnement Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition. This image of the chaotic underwater world of emperor penguins at the edge of the Ross Sea, in Antarctica, beat over 48,000 entries from 98 countries to claim the prize. METRO

Photographer's viewpoint

"The penguins definitely fed off my energy. But I was lucky as I was almost killed by a deadly leopard seal the previous day!"

Paul Nicklen, speaking to Metro about how perilous the life of a wildlife photographer can be.

Story behind photo

Nicklen describes how he took photo

For the image, Nicklen stayed motionless, waiting for the penguins. Suddenly the birds blasted up from the depths and, with frozen fingers, Paul captured this incredible image. "It was a fantastic sight," Nicklen said. "Hundreds launched themselves out of the water and onto the ice above me. It was a moment that I felt incredibly fortunate to witness and one I'll never forget." METRO

Other winner

Bird vs. airplane captures prize

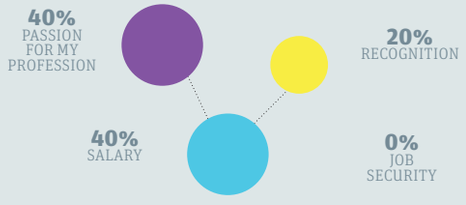
Teenage amateur photographer Owen Hearn (U.K.) won the overall award for under-17s with his image of a red kite and an airplane captured on his grandparents' farm.

"With the bird and plane, you can see the connection between nature and humans," Hearn told Metro. "The life of these birds is decided by how far we develop and encroach into their environment." METRO

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

As an employee, what matters the most to you?



Twitter

@rabbitchoker: Awesome. Our car battery is dead. Getting to Winnipeg will be an adventure to get to @justinbieber concert. #badluck-prevails

@CarolynMJV 10: Re-do: you'd think that since Justin Beiber is in Winnipeg, radio stations would play less Ke$ha and more Beiber.

@megan_elle: Dear god Winnipeg has #bieber-fever WE NEED THE ANTIDOTE!!!

@davidmctavish: Is Biebs in Winnipeg or something tonight? Jeeze Twitter, calm yourself.

@wpglovehate: Didn't anybody think drainage holes at the bottom on the new garbage & recycling bins would have been a good idea? #winnipeg

metro

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Ginger Snaps (from 2000) is a teenage female coming-of-age story couched in werewolf lore. TORSTAR ARCHIVE

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

Hair-raising films for the Halloween season

Frightful fare. The Reel Guys talk about the films that give them the creeps

Richard: Mark, I'm a fan of old school horror. Not Freddy and Jason, or even b-movies like The Astounding She-Monster, but the kind of thing that gave my grandmother nightmares, Dracula, Frankenstein and the Mummy. I love the Universal creature features, so the new one-stop-shopping Classic Monsters Collection Blu Ray has enough to keep me busy until Halloween. Eight monsters! Nine movies! Twelve hours of extras! What keeps you up at night?

Mark: My mortgage, Richard. As far as scary movies go, I have to confess I'm one tough cookie — it's pretty hard to scare me. If there's just a tiny note of humour, I can't take the flick seriously. And I don't believe in monsters, vampires, or ghosts. But what does scare me is the horror of people behaving very, very badly — anything to do with psychopaths gives me the creepy-crawlies. I'm thinking of Henry: Portrait of a Serial Killer, In the Light of the Moon (the Ed Gein biopic), Monster (Aileen Wuornos) or the long list of fictional serial killer movies — Se7en, American Psycho, Silence of the Lambs. Quite an impressive sub-genre when you think about it.

RC: In Cold Blood always freaks me out. It's not a horror film in the traditional sense, but because it's a true story of a senseless murder it sends shivers down my spine… and elsewhere. I usually stick to monster movies, because I'm petty sure a werewolf isn't going to attack me on the walk home. Two werewolf faves are Cure of the Werewolf with Oliver Reed and Ginger Snaps, which takes a bite out of the usual lycanthrope myth, spinning it as a teenage girl coming-of-age story. Are there any fictional creatures that get to you?

MB: Well I wouldn't want to meet Leatherface in a dark alley; in fact, I wouldn't want to meet him at the Four Seasons for smart drinks either. But one kind of horror film that does creep me out is the "home invasion" movie. I'm thinking of Funny Games (both European and U.S. versions), The Strangers, even the paint-by-numbers Nic Cage vehicle Trespass gets under my skin. Because this stuff actually happens, y'know?

Boo

Anyone looking to have the hairs on the back of their necks raised this month won't have trouble finding something to do the trick. Silent Hill: Revelation, Sinister and Paranormal Activity 4 (is it four times scarier than the first one?) are all in theatres, but the Reel Guys have some other tinglers you may not have considered.

RC: Yeah, perhaps I'm more just escapist in my taste of creepy movies. I'm not drawn to true horrific crime unless the criminal is the Creature from the Black Lagoon.

MB: Now that's one home invasion I'd like to see. But I wouldn't want to clean up afterwards.

Hugo Weaving.
Agent Smith rose to the challenge of many roles

One of Hugo Weaving's many Cloud Atlas characters is an assassin. HANDOUT

Cloud Atlas, the new movie co-directed by Matrix filmmakers the Wachowski Siblings and Tom "Run, Lola, Run" Tykwer, is a sprawling story about the interconnectedness of humankind. To illustrate how we are linked the directors took the unique tactic of assigning multiple roles to the entire cast, including stars Tom Hanks and Halle Berry.

Hugo Weaving, the Australian actor of Matrix Trilogy Agent Smith fame, for instance, plays everything from a hired-gun assassin to an evil spirit to a female nurse (which he based on Nurse Ratched from One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest) and more.

"Most of my characters were agents of control, enforcement or attempting to limit imagination or incarcerate people or stop certain stories from getting out into the world or just plain going out and killing people," he says, "and then there's Georgie. He actually doesn't exist as an embodied figure. He's literally a devil, so he's a fear."

Playing a range of characters spanning centuries and even gender divides didn't faze the veteran actor.

"I was completely thrilled at embracing the idea of it," he says. "When they told me the idea originally, 'We want you to be one character in each storyline and at this stage we're calling him the antagonist,' it was a big thrill. If an idea grabs you in the gut, it is something you should definitely do."

Gut feeling aside, juggling six roles presented challenges during the shoot.

"Right from the go the stories weren't going to be shot in the same block," he says.

"We would do elements of certain stories in certain locations. If most of a particular story took place on one set of course you would tend to shoot most of that story before moving on to the other," he says, "but there was one time I had five characters in a week."

The unusual approach, he says, gives the film "a sense of playfulness that it wouldn't otherwise have."

RICHARD CROUSE, METRO

Susan Sarandon joins the Cloud Atlas circus

Part of something big. Actress was thrilled to join up with the Wachowskis and help them create their epic vision

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Susan Sarandon stars in Cloud Atlas, which opens next Friday. TORSTAR ARCHIVE

From playing a former 1960s radical on the run in the Company You Keep to guest-starring as a former middle school teacher out of jail and still romancing a former student in 30 Rock, Susan Sarandon likes to keep things interesting. So naturally she was eager to join the company of Cloud Atlas, playing four different characters for directors Lana and Andy Wachowski and Tom Tykwer. The experience was, as Sarandon puts it, "like joining the circus."

What was the draw for you to take on all of these roles?
I just love the Wachowskis, and I had met Tom before when I was doing Speed Racer. Actually, they gave me the book as a parting gift at that time and I loved the book, and I wasn't thinking about it being made into a movie, but when they got it all together years later and said, "We miss you, come spend some time with us and play in Berlin," even without knowing what they wanted me to do I knew that it was something that I could bear to talk about for days on end at junkets and that it would be a really interesting experience.

How much does being able to bear talking about something for days on end normally factor into your decision?
It's major, because seriously you give so much energy. If it's not something that excites you for some reason, you feel like a hooker. I mean, you can't do it for the money. It has to be something that either has a concept or a character that you've not done before. It can be just fun. You never know how something's going to turn out, so you can't ever make a decision based on what you think will be successful and what won't.

What about this one?
This one was like joining a repertory company, and the spirit of the people that would take that kind of a chance, that would do little parts and big parts and bounce all over the place and put their egos aside was a very unusual, unusual camp to belong to. It was like joining the circus. It was very exhilarating for everybody, I think, even the people who worked much harder than I worked, because you knew you were a part of something that was very special, and everybody was game. When you work with Lana and Andy, they're always very, very well-prepared, but this one, because it was so complicated, it really felt like you were taking off and going into outer space or something, in terms of what it was attempting. There was a certain excitement at being asked to be part of it that I just wanted. Even just historically, I thought it was a really groundbreaking attempt.

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Documentary

Hellbound?

Director. Kevin Miller

The question of where we go when we die — if we've been bad — is parsed in Kevin Miller's intriguing but ultimately frustrating Hellbound? By interviewing a wide range of theologians reaping disparate positions, Miller creates an impression of balance, but the film proceeds from a basic assumption of belief on behalf of the viewer — a position that may limit its appeal. It also doesn't help that Miller uses 9/11 and Ground Zero as a shortcut to the emotions this otherwise talky and at times downright abstract documentary can't quite access.

ADAM NAYMAN

Crime

Alex Cross

Director. Rob Cohen

Stars. Tyler Perry, Matthew Fox, Rachel Nichols

Tyler Perry is the new Alex Cross, stepping into the role Morgan Freeman made famous in Kiss the Girls. In this new thriller the detective underestimates a serial killer (a skeletal Matthew Fox) and that rare mistake in judgment ends up changing his life. The problems here are many, starting with a TV movie-ready script. The only unused cliché is, "Just the facts, ma'am," but, I'm sure screenwriters are already crafting that line into Alex Cross 2: My Name's Not Madea.

RICHARD CROUSE

Horror

Paranormal Activity 4

Director. Henry Joost, Ariel Schulman

Stars. Stephen Dunham, Katie Featherston, Kathryn Newton, Alexondra Lee

Paranormal Activity fans (or what's left of you) are in for the same ride as usual, but this one should have never started. The fourth installment in the franchise offers viewers the same predictable thrills and a weak storyline that is all too familiar. This series started off strong, as the first film explored new territory in the horror genre and went on to be considered one of the scariest movies of all time. Unfortunately there is nothing left to squeeze out of this story. **OLIVIA MORROW**

DC wins Superman copyright battle

Rights retained. Company can continue to use caped hero's image after fight with co-creator's heirs

The cover of Superman No. 1, which was released in 1938.
DC COMICS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DC Comics will retain its rights to Superman after a judge ruled Wednesday that the heirs of one of the superhero's co-creators signed away their ability to reclaim copyrights to the Man of Steel roughly 20 years ago.

The ruling means that DC Comics and its owner Warner Bros. will retain all rights to continue using the character in books, films, television and other mediums, including a reboot of the film planned for next year.

DC Comics sued the heirs of artist Joe Shuster in 2010, seeking a ruling that they lost their ability to try to reclaim the superhero's copyrights in 1992.

U.S. District Court Judge Otis Wright II agreed, stating that Shuster's sister and brother relinquished any chance to reclaim Superman copyrights in exchange for annual pension payments from DC Comics.

Shuster and writer Jerry Siegel created Superman, who made his comic book debut in 1938 in Action Comics (hash)1.

Both men battled for increased compensation for the superhero throughout their lives and Siegel's heirs have also fought DC for a stake in copyrights to Superman.

Shuster's heirs had argued that the copyright agreements could be terminated under provisions that allowed creators of works made before 1978 a mechanism to reclaim their rights.

Wright ruled that the decision by Shuster's sister to accept higher annual payments created a new agreement and the pre-1978 rights no longer applied.

"We respectfully disagree with its factual and legal conclusions, and it is surprising given that the judge appeared to emphatically agree with our position at the summary judgment hearing," the Shusters' attorney Marc Toberoff wrote in a statement.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bond, 3D Bond. Should 007 become a more multi-dimensional character?

Celebrating his 50th birthday, James Bond has been learning some new tricks — but 3D isn't one of them.

Producers of the spy franchise say they have no interest in making a Bond film in 3D.

The upcoming Skyfall is the first Bond film to be released since Avatar made 3D a common and often lucrative practice for blockbusters.

"3D is fantastic for the right material, but we're not sure Bond is the right way to go," said Skyfall producer Barbara Broccoli in a recent interview.

"With our movies, there's a lot of challenges to 3D, particularly when you've got a lot of action and a lot of quick cutting."

Broccoli and her half-brother Michael G. Wilson have shepherded the last seven Bond films, preserving the franchise as a family business.

Skyfall, which premieres next week in the U.K. and opens Nov. 9 in the U.S., follows 2008's Quantum of Solace — released a year before James Cameron's 3D epic.

"It has to be right for our story," said Broccoli.

"Unless you can do something as well as (Avatar), it's probably not worth looking at."

Wilson said there has been interest in converting some of the old Bond films into 3D, which he called "more of a novelty."

Shooting in 3D, which requires larger cameras, can be cumbersome, and quick action shots can be awkward because viewers' eyes don't adjust rapidly enough.

But 3D, for which higher ticket prices are charged, can also bring in more box office.

Bond films, more classical in their 2D, go for spectacle instead with IMAX. Skyfall will be released a day early, Nov. 8, in North America on IMAX screens.

Daniel Craig is signed for at least two more Bond films, neither of which are planned to be shot in 3D. GETTY IMAGES

Still, Broccoli left the door open for things to change.

Daniel Craig is signed for at least two more Bond films, which will be the 24th and 25th in the franchise.

Neither is currently being planned in 3D.

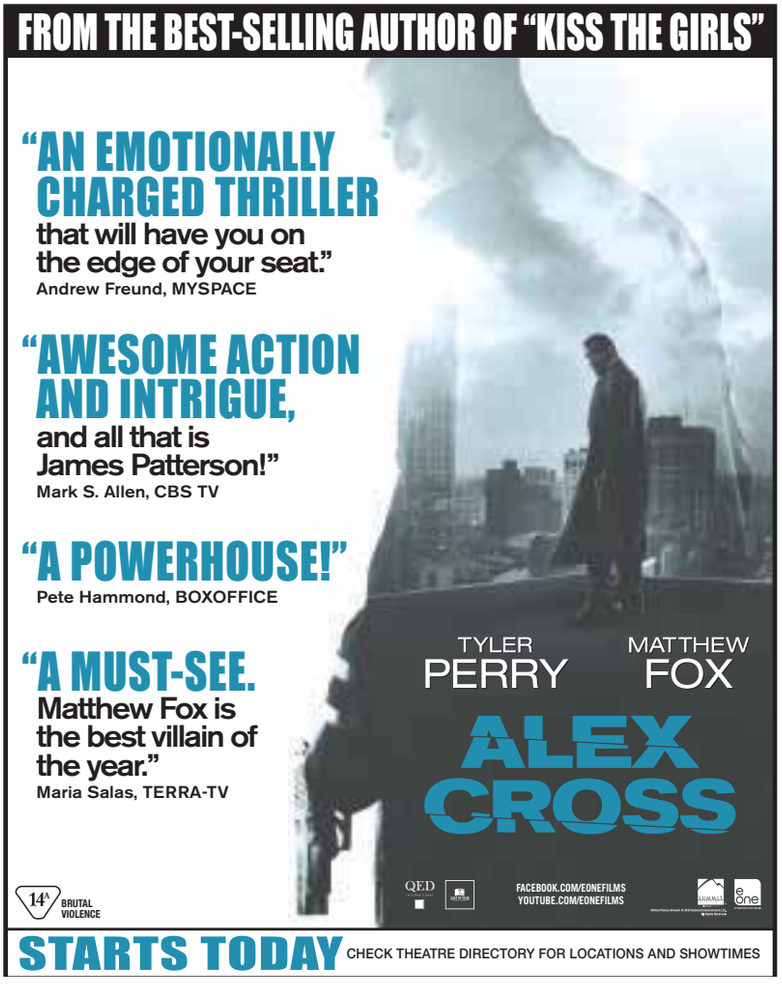
"Who knows?" she said. "We'll see if things change in the future."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"With our movies, there's a lot of challenges to 3D, particularly when you've got a lot of action and a lot of quick cutting."

Skyfall producer Barbara Broccoli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Where are the bevy of Baywatch babes now?

The gorgeous ladies from hit '90s show Baywatch made male viewers drool as they patrolled their Los Angeles beach and plucked drowning people from the Pacific Ocean. But what happened to them all after the show was beached?

MIKE DOJC
scene@metronews.ca

A decade after the sun set on last-gasp spinoff Baywatch Hawaii, the thin on storyline yet beautifully shot series famous for slow motion runs and glistening beach bodies is ripe for revival. Word is Robert Ben Garant, co-creator of Reno 911 and the writer of Night at The Museum has been tapped to direct the long awaited big screen adaptation. So while the hype balloons, we check in on C.J. and Summer and all of the other flotation device carrying babes to see what they've been up to since doffing their iconic red suits.

The most famous of them all as she is today. ALL PHOTOS GETTY

Pamela Anderson

Pammy didn't skip a beat after Baywatch was beached. The extra-chesty actress landed the titular role on the sexy romp VIP, short for Vallery Irons Protection which enjoyed a solid four season run. Next the Ladysmith, British-Columbia-born sweetheart parlayed her pretend lifeguarding and bodyguard management gigs into the animated Stripperella (stripper by night…superhero later at night) and Stacked where she played a ditzy bookstore clerk. The quintessential blonde bombshell, now 45, recently padded her already ample Playboy CV, posing for the January 2011 issue, her record 11th cover. A big-hearted babe, Pamela donated her modeling fee to charity.

Alexandra Paul

Sporty Paul, who portrayed straight-laced Lieutenant Stephanie Holden, stood out for her short-haired do and flutter board flat torso. After a seven-year run her character was killed off, done in by the mast of sailboat that is hit by lightning and crushes her—David Hasselhoff manages to reach her but the Hoff is too late and she passes away in his arms. A real life hardcore swimmer, Paul has competed in some serious island-to-island distance events. She swam the 10-mile Lanai to Maui channel swim in 2006 and the 11 mile Denaru to Beachcomber stroke-fest in 2009. An eco-conscious gal, Paul is featured in the documentary Who Killed the Electric Car and wrote and directed a couple of PBS docs: Jam Packed about the population crisis, and The Cost of Cool-Finding Happiness in a Materialistic World.

Carmen Electra

Carmen caught the tail end of Baywatch mania, electrifying the last 22 episodes as Lani McKenzie. Post Baywatch this buxom vixen remained in the spotlight in part due to high profile relationships with Dennis Rodman and later Dave Navvaro. She also became a go-to actress in spoofs with turns in Scary Movie (2000), Date Movie (2006), Epic Movie (2007), Disaster Movie (2008) and Meet the Spartans (2008). The curvaceous cutie also did a two-year stint as a dancer with the Pussycat Dolls before the burlesque troupe transformed into a musical sextet with frisky "Don't cha wish your girlfriend was hot like me?" lyrics. Electra, 40, and still smokin', was engaged (since called off) to Filter guitarist Rob Patterson and can be see writhing around raunchily with other babes in their 2010 video New Love.

Nicole Eggert

As certifiably sexy blondie Summer Quinn, Eggert fulfilled many a dude's hot for puma (junior cougar) fantasy when she eventually hooked up with Hasselhoff's son Hobie who is eight years her junior. After having her fill of fun in the warm California sun after a 45-episode stint, Eggert appeared in the buff on Sugar Ray's Lemonade and Brownies album. In 1996 Eggert was involved in a near fatal snowmobile accident. She shattered her spine, breaking it in three places, but thankfully she made a full recovery. While hardly overweight, Eggert was last seen in the 2010 edition of Celebrity Fit Club alongside Bobby Brown, Shar Jackson and Kevin Federline. Eggert still flexes her acting chops on occasion, though you probably didn't catch her in 2008's A Christmas Proposal or 2010's Turbulent Skies about a self-flying airplane that goes haywire.

Yasmine Bleeth

This brunette minx gave Pammy a run for her money in the most ogled Baywatch beauty sweepstakes for a couple of years. After rescuing her last drowning victim in 1997, Bleeth nabbed a recurring role on Nash Bridges as an internal affairs investigator out to figuratively nail Don Johnson. Of course they eventually succumb to the mounting sexual tension and become lovers. Next up Bleeth is cast in the short-lived Erin Spelling nighttime soap Titans set on Waikiki beach. Bleeth steams up the big screen in Trey Parker and Matt Stone's BASEketball but critics went 'tsk tsk' and she received a Worst Actress Golden Raspberry nomination. Her career hit a major snag in 2001 when she was pinched for cocaine possession. While in rehab at the Promises clinic she met her husband strip-club owner Paul Cerrito. Her last screen role was 2003's Maximum Surge.

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Winnipeg

Cinema City Northgate 1399 McPhillips Street, 204-334-6234

The Amazing Spider-Man (14A) Fri 7:20 Sat-Sun 1:50-7:20 Mon-Thu 5:10
The Amazing Spider-Man 3D (14A) Fri 9 Sat-Sun 3:40-9 Mon-Thu 7:30
The Bourne Legacy (PG) Fri 7-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:20-4:10-7-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:50
Brave 3D (PG) Fri 7:10-9:30 Sat-Sun 2:20-4:50-7:10-9:30 Mon-Thu 6-8:30
The Dark Knight Rises (PG) Fri 6:15-9:30 Sat-Sun 2:30-5:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 5-8:20
Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days (G) Fri 9:10 Sat-Sun 4:30-9:10 Mon-Thu 7:40
Hope Springs (14A) Fri 6:30 Sat-Sun 1:40-6:30 Mon-Thu 5:40
Ice Age: Continental Drift (G) Fri 10:05 Sat-Sun 5:10-10:05 Mon-Thu 8
Ice Age: Continental Drift 3D (G) Fri 6:40 Sat-Sun 1:10-6:40 Mon-Thu 5:20
Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted (G) Fri 6:50 Sat-Sun 2-6:50 Mon-Thu 5:30
ParaNorman 3D (STC) Fri 7:30-9:40 Sat-Sun 2:10-4:40-7:30-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:50-8
Ted (18A) Fri 8:45 Sat-Sun 3:50-8:45 Mon-Thu 7:50

Cinematheque 304-100 Arthur, 204-925-3457

No Films Showing Today (STC) Mon-Tue
Not Dead Yet (STC) Fri-Sat 9 Sun 2 Wed 7 Thu 9
Your Sister's Sister (14A) Fri-Sun 7 Thu 7

City Cinema - Northgate 1399 McPhillips, 204-334-6234

The Amazing Spider-Man (14A) Fri 7:20 Sat-Sun 1:50-7:20 Mon-Thu 5:10
The Amazing Spider-Man 3D (14A) Fri 9 Sat-Sun 3:40-9 Mon-Thu 7:30
The Bourne Legacy (PG) Fri 7-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:20-4:10-7-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:50
Brave 3D (PG) Fri 7:10-9:30 Sat-Sun 2:20-4:50-7:10-9:30 Mon-Thu 6-8:30
The Dark Knight Rises (PG) Fri 6:15-9:30 Sat-Sun 2:30-5:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 5-8:20
Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days (G) Fri 9:15 Sat-Sun 4:30-9:10 Mon-Thu 7:40
Hope Springs (14A) Fri 6:30 Sat-Sun 1:40-6:30 Mon-Thu 5:40
Ice Age: Continental Drift (G) Fri 10:05 Sat-Sun 5:10-10:05 Mon-Thu 8
Ice Age: Continental Drift 3D (G) Fri 6:40 Sat-Sun 1:10-6:40 Mon-Thu 5:20
Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted (G) Fri 6:50 Sat-Sun 2-6:50 Mon-Thu 5:30
ParaNorman 3D (STC) Fri 7:30-9:40 Sat-Sun 2:10-4:40-7:30-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:50-8

Argo. HANDOUT

Ted (18A) Fri 8:45 Sat-Sun 3:50-8:45 Mon-Thu 7:50
Famous Players Kildonan Place
1555 Regent Ave W, 204-663-2166
Frankenweenie (G) Fri-Sun 2:40-5:10-7:20-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:40-7:55
Here Comes the Boom (PG) Fri-Sun 2:30-5-7:30-10:05 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:30
Hotel Transylvania (G) Fri-Sun 2:10-4:30-7-9:20 Mon-Thu 5:20-7:50
Paranormal Activity 4 (STC) No Passes Fri-Sun 2:50-5:15-7:40-10 No Passes Mon-Thu 5:45-8
Pitch Perfect (PG) Fri-Sun 2:05-4:25-6:50-9:30 Mon-Thu 5:30-8:10
Sinister (18A) Fri-Sun 2:20-4:50-7:35-10:10 Mon-Thu 5:35-8:20

Grant Park 8 Cinemas 1120 Grant Ave., 204-453-4084

Argo (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 4-6:55-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:05-4-6:55-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4-6:55-9:55
Hotel Transylvania (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 3:30-9:20
Hotel Transylvania 3D (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 6:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:40-6:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:50
Looper (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 4:15-7:10-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:15-4:15-7:10-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4:15-7:10-10:05
The Master (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:35-6:45-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:30-3:35-6:45-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:35-6:45-9:45
Paranormal Activity 4 (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 4:10-7:15-10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:55-4:10-7:15-10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4:10-7:15-10
Pitch Perfect (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 3:50-6:30-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat-Sun 12:50-3:50-6:30-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Mon-Thu 3:50-6:30-9:25
Samsara (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:40-6:35-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:35-3:40-6:35-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:40-6:35-9:30
Taken 2 (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 3:55-7:05-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat-Sun 1:10-3:55-7:05-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Mon-Thu 3:55-7:05-9:40

IMAX Theatre at Portage Place Y003-393 Portage Avenue, 204-956-4629

The Amazing Spider-Man: The IMAX Experience (14A) Fri 6:50 Sat 2:15-8:15 Sun 3:15
Born to Be Wild 3D (G) Fri 11:15 Tue 1:15
Coral Reef Adventure (STC) Sat-Sun 1 Thu 12:15
The Dark Knight Rises: The IMAX Experience (STC) Fri 9:30 Sat 5 Sun 6
Egypt 3D: Secrets of the Mummies (STC) Wed 12
Greece: Secrets of the Past (G) Sun-Mon 12
To the Arctic 3D (STC) Fri 12:30 Sat 12 Sun 2 Mon 1:15 Tue 12 Wed 1:15 Thu 10
Tornado Alley 3D (G) Thu 1:30

Landmark Globe Cinema 393 Portage Ave, 204-943-1583

Argo (14A) Fri 7-9:40 Sat-Sun 1-3:40-7-9:40 Mon-Thu 7-9:40
For a Good Time, Call ... (18A) Mon-Wed 7:30-9:50
Searching for Sugar Man (PG) Fri 7:15-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:30-7:15-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:30

Landmark Towne Cinema 8 301 Notre Dame Avenue, 204-947-2848

Alex Cross (18A) Fri 7-9:20 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:45-7-9:20 Mon-Thu 7-9:20
Frankenweenie (G) Fri 7:15-9:15 Sat-Sun 1:30-3:30-7:15-9:15 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:15
Here Comes the Boom (PG) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 1-3:30-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:30
Hotel Transylvania (G) Sat-Sun 3:30
Hotel Transylvania 3D (G) Fri 7-9:15 Sat-Sun 1:15-7-9:15 Mon-Thu 7-9:15
Looper (14A) Fri 6:45-9:20 Sat-Sun 1-3:45-6:45-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:20
Paranormal Activity 4 (STC) Fri 7:15-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:30-3:45-7:15-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:30
Sinister (18A) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:45-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:30
Taken 2 (14A) Fri 7:15-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:30-7:15-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:30

SilverCity Polo Park 815 St. James Street, 204-774-1001

Alex Cross (18A) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:10-5:40-8:10-10:40 Mon-Thu 2:05-4:50-8:10-10:40
Arbitrage (14A) Fri-Sat 12:10-2:45-5:20-7:55-10:35 Sun 5:20-7:55-10:35 Mon-Wed 2:15-5-7:50-10:30 Thu 4:30-10:30
Argo (14A) Fri-Sun 1:10-4:05-7-10:05 Mon-Thu 1:20-4:10-7:05-10:05
Dracula / Frankenstein Double Feature (STC) Sun 12:45 Wed 7
Frankenweenie (G) Fri-Tue 1:10-3:30-5:50-8:10-10:25 Wed 1:10-3:20-5:35-10:25 Thu 2-4:30-10:25
Here Comes the Boom (PG) Fri-Sat 12:30-3:05-5:40-8:15-10:45 Sun 12:15-2:45-5-7:55-10:45 Mon-Tue 1:55-4:40-7:20-10 Wed 1:55-4:40-7:55-10:30 Thu 1:15-3:55-7:20-10
Hotel Transylvania (G) Fri-Sun 12:45-2:55 Mon-Tue 1:05-3:15 Wed 3:15 Thu 1:15-3:30 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Hotel Transylvania 3D (G) Fri-Sun 5:20-7:40-9:55 Mon-Wed 5:25-7:40-9:55 Thu 5:45-8-9:55
Led Zeppelin: Celebration Day (PG) Thu 7:15
Looper (14A) Fri-Sun 2:05-4:55-7:45-10:35 Mon-Thu 1:05-4:25-7:15-10:05
Paranormal Activity 4 (STC) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:35-2:55-5:15-7:40-10 No Passes Mon-Thu 2:30-4:50-7:15-9:35
Paranormal Activity 4: The IMAX Experience (STC) No Passes Fri-Sun 1:45-4-6:15-8:30-10:45 No Passes Mon-Thu 1:15-3:30-5:45-8-10:15
The Perks of Being a Wallflower (PG) Fri-Sun 12:05-2:35-5:05-7:50-10:30 Mon-Tue 2-4:35-7:10-9:50 Wed 4:35-7:10-9:50 Thu 2-7:10-9:50 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Pitch Perfect (PG) Fri-Sun 2:10-4:50-7:35-10:15 Mon-Thu 2:10-4:55-7:35-10:15
Seven Psychopaths (18A) Fri-Thu 2:10-4:45-7:30-10:10
Sinister (18A) Fri-Sun 2:30-5:10-8-10:40 Mon-Thu 2:20-5:05-7:45-10:25
Taken 2 (14A) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:10-5:30-7:55-10:20 Mon-Thu 1:05-3:15-5:30-7:55-10:20

SilverCity St. Vital 110-1225 St Mary's Rd, 204-256-3901

Argo (14A) Fri-Sun 1:25-4:15-7:05-10 Mon-Wed 1:50-4:30-7:15-10:05 Thu 4:30-7:15-10:05 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Hellbound? (STC) Fri-Sun 1:20-3:30-5:50-8-10:10 Mon-Wed 2:50-5:10-7:30-10 Thu 2:50-5-10
Here Comes the Boom (PG) Fri-Sun 12:25-2:55-5:25-7:55-10:20 Mon-Thu 2:20-4:50-7:20-9:50
Hotel Transylvania (G) Fri-Sun 12:30-2:45 Mon-Thu 2:45
Hotel Transylvania 3D (G) Fri-Thu 5:05-7:25-9:40
Led Zeppelin: Celebration Day (PG) Thu 7:15
Looper (14A) Fri-Sun 2-4:45-7:30-10:15 Mon-Wed 2-4:45-7:30-10:10 Thu 2-4:45-10:10
Paranormal Activity 4 (STC) No Passes Fri-Sun 1-3:20-5:40-8:05-10:30 No Passes Mon-Thu 3:10-5:30-7:55-10:15
Pitch Perfect (PG) Fri-Sun 2:20-4:50-7:20-9:55 Mon-Wed 2:10-4:40-7:10-9:40 Thu 4:40-7:10-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Sinister (18A) Fri-Sun 2:25-5:05-7:45-10:30 Mon-Thu 2:15-4:50-7:35-10:10
Taken 2 (14A) Fri-Sun 1:05-3:25-5:45-8:05-10:25 Mon-Thu 2:35-4:55-7:20-9:45

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Diamond Rings, Bat for Lashes and Rah Rah all fighting for shelf space

Taylor Swift has a new album coming Tuesday, so all the other big names have wisely cleared out of her way. But she doesn't have everything to herself.

SOUND CHECK
Alan Cross
scene@metronews.ca

On the web

Scan this code or visit metronews.ca to listen to Alan Cross' selections.

1 Free Dimensional/ Diamond Rings

Toronto's Bowie-esque John Diamond Rings O'Regan is ready with his second album. The hype is quite thick. Let's see what happens. View a teaser of the album by scanning the code.

2 Laura/Bat for Lashes

I've heard portions of Natasha Bat for Lashes Khan's third album, The Haunted Man. It's gorgeous. Start with this advance single.

3 Art and a Wife/ Rah Rah

Fun husband and wife team from Regina from their third album, The Poet's Dead. The video is great for people who love dogs.

Bruce Springsteen. Talks about who he thinks should be the U.S. boss

Bruce Springsteen has endorsed Barack Obama for president. GETTY IMAGES

After vowing not to participate in this year's presidential election, Bruce Springsteen is supporting Barack Obama again, saying he believes Obama is the best person to lead America.

Springsteen posted a message on his website Wednesday night endorsing President Obama's re-election, saying he'd been "getting asked a lot about where I stand."

The rock star will make his debut on the 2012 campaign trail Thursday at events in Iowa with former President Bill Clinton.

He also backed Obama in 2008.

Springsteen says he's behind Obama, who is facing Republican rival Mitt Romney in November, because of the president's views on the rights of women and homosexuals, ending the war in Iraq and tracking down Osama bin Laden.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Getting down with the Dum Dum Girls

New music. Dee Dee Penny talks about what motivates them to make the high-energy music they do

HEIDI PATALANO
Metro World News

The Dum Dum Girls have released their new EP, End of Daze. GETTY IMAGES

Dee Dee Penny of the Dum Dum Girls doesn't seem to be the excitable type, with her soft monotone speaking voice and often expressionless countenance, but her music betrays a kind of raw, spastic energy that fuels her ambitious creative output.

We'd try to describe what it sounds like, but as Penny reminds us, journalists too often get the references wrong.

So instead, we'll have Penny tell you, herself, as she discusses this and her new EP, End of Daze.

Press materials for this EP go into a lot of detail about the albums you were listening to while you wrote it. Why do you think it's important to put your influences out there like that?

I don't know that it is. ... I think it's honestly born of reading reviews of things that are so far off the mark in terms of what they assume I was thinking or reading or listening to. Sometimes I just get to the point where I'm like, 'I'm just gonna tell you because it's gonna come out better for both of us.'

But I never want anything to be that apparent and it's never something that overt. Like, oh, obviously, I listened to Viva Hate during this period and my work is a direct extension of that. It's just sometimes helpful — especially for a band like mine who has from an early point been pigeonholed or summarized in like, two bands.

Why did these five songs seem to be a unit unto itself rather than part of a full album?

It was pretty similar to when I put out the He Gets Me High EP. It felt like this album was maybe not conceptual in the traditional sense, but I felt like it dealt with something specifically and then it was complete at five songs. I'm always writing. I have probably 40 songs I could have put out.

You've done some great covers — notably There Is a Light That Never Goes Out by The Smiths. Are you ever worried that fans will focus more on those and less on your original material?

No. I definitely have made a habit of recording covers.

There's been a cover on every record I've done except for Only in Dreams and that is very much related to the fact that I am a music fan. I don't think that overshadows what I do, but I think it brings to light how I approach things.

I've never done a traditional cover in the sense that it sounds a lot like the original.

I've always tried to do a personal interpretation of it. ... I never think I can improve on the original. I like to take a stab at it from a different direction. I think people appreciate that.

People love hearing songs that they love. If it's a song by somebody else that we play that they love, they're still going to be really happy about that. It's like a little gift, especially with The Smiths' song because The Smiths are such a massive band for so many people. ... It's so many people's favorite song and for them to not slag us off for covering it, that's kind of an accomplishment (laughs).

Dum facts

What you need to know about the Dum Dum Girls

- **Formed.** The band, originally from California, formed in 2009.
- **Leader of the band.** Dee Dee Penny, currently based in New York City, with the rest of the band in Los Angeles, was the person who put the concepts together and gives the band its musical focus.

Making it up as they go

New music. Jakob Dylan talks about how his band made Glad All Over, their first album in seven years, different from the others

Jakob Dylan of the Wallflowers has revamped the way they make music. RICK DIAMOND/GETTY IMAGES

As producers are known to do, Jay Joyce called Jakob Dylan to discuss plans before they were scheduled to start recording The Wallflowers' first album in seven years.

Joyce was surprised when Dylan said he really didn't have anything.

"We had a couple of songs, nothing but a bunch of stuff on a laptop that I said, 'This might sound like this. This might sound like this,'" Dylan recalled.

"But they were lyrics," Joyce said in mock protest.

"I was like, 'This is what I got,'" Dylan, 42, said with a laugh.

The singer and producer got together recently in Nashville to talk about Glad All Over, the first Wallflowers' album since 2005's Rebel, Sweetheart. This time around the Grammy winners tried something different as Dylan — no longer comfortable with his lead songwriting role — took a step back and tried to blend into the band.

In the past, he'd shown up at sessions with demos and strong feelings. This time, there were no demos or completed lyrics; just ideas the group — which includes longtime members Rami Jaffee on keyboard, Greg Richling on bass and guitarist Stuart Mathis with new drummer Jack Irons — took and ran with.

"If you (pre-write), those songs come with an implied feeling, groove, tempo," Dylan said. "They can limit the bass player. They can limit the drums. You've already got your vocal locked in and you're not going to budge. So it can be stifling. You realize you're bolted in with what the song already was. This lets the band lead, lets the band get out and front, and I can find a way to fit in the opposite way."

"It could have gone horribly wrong, man," Joyce said. "It was sort of fun. That's what attracted me to it: 'Oh, (expletive), this is scary!'"

What emerged is a writhing, rhythm-heavy album that has Joyce's grimy fingerprints all over it.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the trail with a ghost hunter

Ghost Adventures.
Show airs Fridays and Saturdays at 9 p.m. ET/PT on Travel+Escape

MEREDITH ENGEL
Metro World News in New York

When Zak Bagans saw his first ghost — a woman at the foot of his bed in Detroit — he knew he was part of a rare breed of people. But he was disappointed to see how lightly people were taking his experience.

"I was really getting aggravated telling this story to people," the host of Ghost Adventures on Travel+Escape says. "I'd tell the story and then we'd go eat a sandwich and that's it. I experienced something that is legit. And that put me on this quest and it changed everything about me after that."

The paranormal expert now seeks out spirits for a living, and he doesn't listen to the naysayers around him.

"The evidence that we are capturing now is not just flickering lights and door knocks," he says. "I want to welcome people that don't believe and talk with them and show them the steps and have them accompany me on investigations."

Bagans says the ghosts that still linger on earth do so for a reason.

"[They] have something to say," he says. "There's something unsolved in their life, whether it's an unsolved murder — they know who the killer is but the police never found out — a lost love [who] died suddenly, they're in denial [about their death]. A spirit, I believe, is still trapped here is because they're not ready to move on. They want to keep living. Or they're dead and they're just stuck here, in purgatory, because they know that if they go to hell, it's gonna be worse."

And there's also a reason why they choose your particular home to haunt.

"It's still a fight of who owns the place. There's a living person there but there's a ghost that wants the living person out."

The basic tools

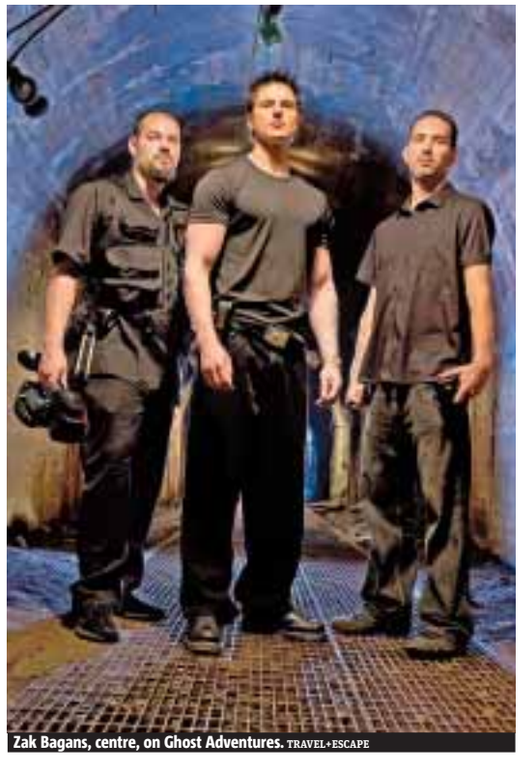
"The evolution of technology, the engineers that we work with — electrical engineers that have worked at NASA — they are designing this equipment for us," Bagans says.

- **Mel meter.** It may look like a cell phone Zack Morris would have owned, but it's really used to pick up electromagnetic energy. "Spirits are made up of energy. ... This can detect the energy. It's like a metal detector."
- **Digital recorder.** Got one of these lying around? You can use it to talk to ghosts. Once you identify some inexplicable energy, record yourself talking to the potential spirit and play it back on a speaker. "These microphones will pick up sounds that we can't hear," Bagans says. "They'll pick up sub-frequencies. And when spirits speak they can speak within these sub-frequencies, in the white noise that's generated by the recorders."

Are you haunted?

If you're one of the "nine out of 10" who Bagans predicts has experienced some supernatural activity in your home, don't panic, he advises.

"Just let it be, because I think that if you try and communicate with them, like what I do, then once they realize — like in the movie Ghost — that you can hear them, they will just bug you even more. If that's what you want, get a digital recorder and talk with them. If you directly start communicating with them, they're gonna know that they've gotten your attention. That's what they're trying to do — get your attention."



Zak Bagans, centre, on Ghost Adventures. TRAVEL+ESCAPE

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Chelsea Handler ALL PHOTOS GETTY

Paris Hilton? I couldn't Handler on my show, says host Chelsea

Chelsea Handler has had all sorts of guests on her talk show, but she has to draw the line somewhere. When asked by Access Hollywood if there's anyone she would never have on Chelsea Lately, the host says, "Well, probably Paris Hilton or something. She hasn't begged (to come on), but I mean, I can't look at her. She's like the worst." Handler also shoots down the idea of ever interviewing Dina or Michael Lohan, the headline-grabbing parents of troubled actress Lindsay Lohan. "No, I can't talk to them," Handler says.

Quoted

"I can't look at her. She's like the worst."

Talkshow host Chelsea Handler
When asked who she would never have on her show Chelsea Lately.

Jennifer Aniston

Aniston praises fiancé Justin Theroux for 'sneakiest' proposal job

Jennifer Aniston gives fiancé Justin Theroux high marks for secrecy in the lead-up to his popping the question. "The proposal was one of the sneakiest jobs I've ever seen," Aniston tells People magazine. "I had no idea." The actress also has no idea what she'll be wearing for her big day, but she knows it won't be anything to experimental. "A bride should look like herself," Aniston says. "If you try something new, you'll feel uncomfortable."

The Word

Kutcher tops TV wage stack with $24M pay packet

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Here's a little perspective to kick off your weekend: Ashton Kutcher is not only having sexual relations with Mila Kunis but he's also pulling in a whopping $24 million a year.

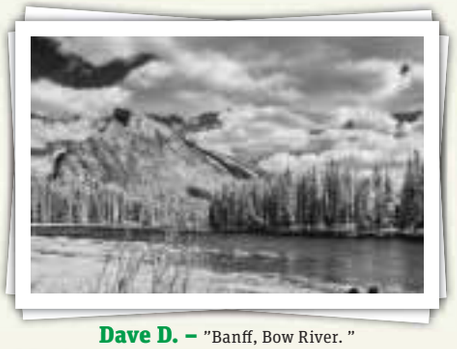
So even though Kutcher is the butt of many jokes, maybe he's having the last laugh? According to a new article in Forbes, the Two and a Half Men star earned that huge salary courtesy of his starring role on the top-rated sitcom, Two and a Half Men (his tech investments also helped).

Following Kutcher were Hugh Laurie and Ray Romano, tied for second place at $18 million thanks to the syndication of House and Everybody Loves Raymond. Next: Alec Baldwin of 30 Rock and Mark Harmon of NCIS in another tie at $15 million a year, followed by Tim Allen, star of Last Man Standing, at $14 million.

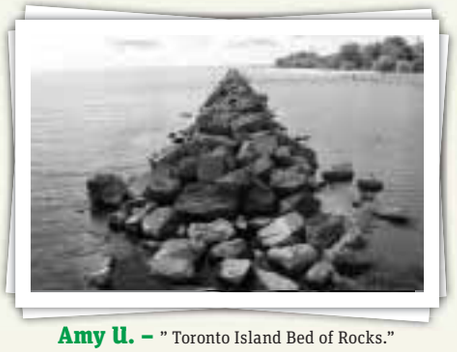
Sadly, Jon Cryer, who always played second financial fiddle to Charlie Sheen on Men, is still losing out to his more handsome coworker and is only bringing in $13 million. One day the nerds will rise, Cryer, and you will have your due.

Check out this week's most shared photos at metrophotochallenge.ca

Denis A. – "Botanic Garden Montréal"



Dave D. – "Banff, Bow River. "



Amy U. – " Toronto Island Bed of Rocks."

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Liquid Assets

Spicy side of your cocktail

LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

When you grow up in Nova Scotia, like I did, it's a given that your first taste of spirits will come from the fountain of rum. Not just any rum, I'm talking black rum. Jet black rum.

It's the kind of tipple that grows hair on your chest and offers you memories to last a lifetime (along with some you wish to forget).

Sadly, most everywhere else in Canada rum isn't held in such high esteem — proving a favourite of Johnny Depp wannabes and those who find a popular cola brand the ultimate cocktail mix.

While I'm cool with that, there is a certain "je ne sais quoi" to rum that appeals to the pirate in all of us. That said, a glass of rum's 21st century persona is less yo-ho-ho and way more spice — which is opening liquor cabinet doors across the country.

The Kraken Black Spiced ($27.99 - $32.99) is the epitome of dark rum's new personality. Inky black, rich and spicy, it drinks as well over ice as it does blended into any rum-based concoction.

Plus, packaging fans will love the bottles two-handled grip and the menacing giant squid on the label.

PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.

The spice route

This time of the year sees us returning to the foods that we know and love — pies, soups and hot drinks. Bal Arneson of the Food Network's Spice Goddess, tells us how to remake our favourites.

DAN CLAPSON

Bal Arneson, cookbook author and Food Network Canada personality, is definitely one lady who knows her spices. You can watch her reinventing delicious dishes on her popular show, Spice Goddess, as well as a resident judge on Shaw's new cooking series, Cooking with Fire. Here's how Arneson uses Indian spices at home to transform some traditional autumn staples…

Hot Chocolate

"A pinch of clove will give it a nice, fresh flavour. Clove is so strong, so just a tiny, tiny pinch! And, a pinch of cardamon on top of the whipped cream."

Apple Pie

"When I mix my apples (for the pie), I always add green cardamon seeds. The seeds have a nice floral flavour. Once you try it with the cardamon, you can never go back to the regular apple pie!"

Butternut Squash Soup

"Definitely crushed coriander and cumin seeds. Coriander will give it a nice nutty flavour and the cumin will add a warming feeling to (the soup).

DAN CLAPSON

Curried Pumpkin. Transition pie staple to savoury dish

This recipe serves four. SUBMITTED

"One of my jobs as a child was to remove the seeds from the pumpkin before my mom could cook with it," remembers Bal Arneson.

1. Heat the grapeseed oil in a skillet over medium-high heat. When the oil is hot, add the chopped onion and ginger and cook for 2 minutes.

2. Stir in the chopped tomatoes, fenugreek seeds, garam masala, and salt and cook for 5 minutes.

3. Add the cubed pumpkin, vegetable broth and chili to the skillet. Bring everything to boil, then reduce the heat to low. Cook until the pumpkin is tender, 15-18 minutes. Serve the Curried Pumpkin over rice.

RECIPE COURTESY OF BAL ARNESON

Ingredients

- 3 tbsp (45 ml) grapeseed oil
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 1 tsp (5 ml) chopped ginger
- 1 cup (250 ml) finely chopped tomatoes
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) fenugreek seeds
- 1 tsp (5 ml) garam masala
- salt to taste
- 1 lb (500 g) pumpkin, seeded, peeled, and cubed
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) vegetable broth
- 1 green chili, finely sliced

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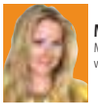

MIX OF SIX
Meghan Duffy
winnipeg@metronews.ca

Boo time!

Boo at the Zoo is back in full force this year at Assiniboine Park Zoo. Not only is it their 17th year hosting this spooktacular event, they have added some new displays, like Transylvania and African Safari. If you go, don't forget to dress up! B at the Z kicked off Thursday and runs until Oct. 28 from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Bring the little ones and a few friends and don't be tardy for this spooky party. P.S. the pirates, The Lost World and Alice in Wonderland will all be returning this year.

The Brink ...

The Brink is PTE's new family drama which runs until Oct. 28. This quirky play directed by Robert Metcalfe focuses on a man trying to find his own path in life, which, for many years, has been shadowed by his family's successes. He is on the brink of making some major life-changing decisions — just like many of us. This play would be a perfect for your upcoming date night! For more info visit pte.mb.ca.

The Beatles are back — sort of

Four Beatle wannabees called Rain are hitting the stage at the MTS Centre on Saturday and they're apparently almost identical to the original foursome. Normally tribute brands are far from the real deal — especially for die-hard fans, however after reading through reviews about these guys, apparently they are something to check out as their impersonations are right on the nose. Tickets available at ticketmaster.com.

Try out Tre Visi

Last week for my date night we went to this beautiful Italian restaurant called Tre Visi. John A. Smook, one of the owners, understands how to give you the full Italian dining experience from beginning to end — and he may even be the one serving you. I highly recommend the Mozzarella Caprese to start, followed by the Rigatoni Quattro Gusti, a rich and creamy meat sauce pasta dish tossed with four different cheeses. But what would a great dinner be without a fab dessert? Ask for the Trio… I'll leave it at that. trevisirestaurant.com.

Time for art

Dare we say it — Christmas is coming, and instead of getting car accessories, household goods, or even small kitchen appliances that always get re-gifted, I think it's time for art. Winnipeg is home to many talented artists, so why not support them this holiday season by going down the Forks Market this weekend for the Uniquely Manitoba Art Extravaganza? The art display runs Saturday and Sunday… but go early if you want to have first dibbs!

Speaking of Christmas

Scattered Seeds, Winnipeg's largest Christmas Craft show, gets going on Friday at Red River Exhibition Place. If you're looking for something unique, this is the place to be this weekend. Manitoba artisans proudly showcase their wares at the show, which gets larger and larger every year. Tickets are $6 at the door, and the show runs until Sunday.

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- Executive Big Band

With a Song in My Heart
Monday, 22 October 2012
- Ray St. Germain
- Winnipeg Male Chorus
- Assiniboia Concert Band

Bach, Broadway and Benny
Tuesday, 23 October 2012
- Chamber Orchestra of St. John's College
- Sweet Adelines — Assiniboine Show Chorus
- The Murray Riddell Big Band

Earlier Popular Music
Wednesday, 24 October 2012
- Northwinds Community Band
- New Horizons Band
- Crazy Eights Dixieland Band

Strings and Winds
Thursday, 25 October 2012
- Winnipeg Pops Orchestra
- Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra
- Westwood Community Band

Anthems, Ballads and Concerti
Monday, 29 October 2012
- Festival Orchestra
- Frank Burke and Ron Paley
- Festival Concert Band

Celebration of Seniors
Tuesday, 30 October 2012
- Sisters of the Holy Rock

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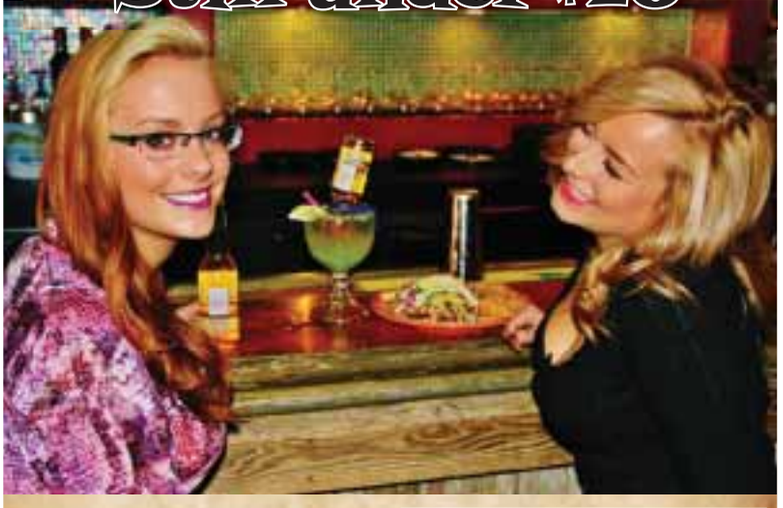

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MOMS TURN CRAFT-MAKING INTO A CAREER

Who are the Scattered Seeds? In the beginning, they were five stay-at-home moms, each with a love of handmade art, and a friendship that kept them together.

In the mid-1980s, Eileen, Shelley, Helen, and Helen's daughters, Lynda and Debbie, lived in different parts of the Winnipeg area. Each had a talent for craft-making, and an interest in selling the things they made. Shelley remembers why.

"Back then, we'd have more months left over than money," she says. "All of us wanted to stay home with our children, but we had a need for supplemental income too. The sensible thing was to turn what we loved to do — craft-making — into a means of earning a little extra."

Luckily for the ladies, Debbie owned a beautiful Cape Cod-style home in Bird's Hill, Manitoba. Clear out the furniture, decorate it just right, and it could look like an authentic country store — at least on the inside.

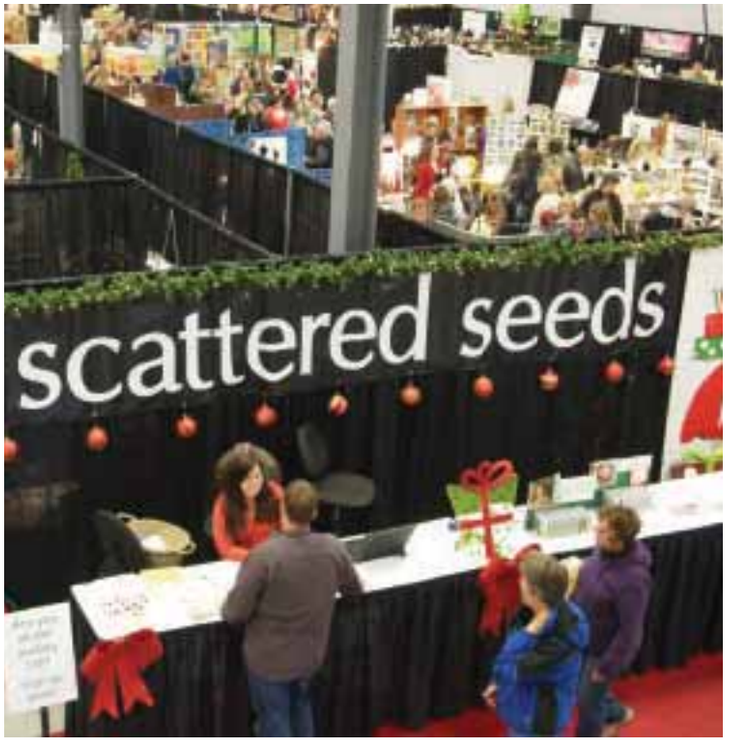
That's just what the five of them did. For three days, Debbie's house became a place for tea, snacks and good chat — and more importantly, a place for invitees to purchase one-of-a-kind items, like Lynda's folk paintings or Eileen's woodwork.

"The event was never advertised; never open to the public," Shelley remembers. "We simply told our friends about it. And it proved so popular that we did it again next year. And the year after that! By the tenth year, we were drawing 500 people. That's when we knew it was time to expand."

The ladies knew they were part of a large and enthusiastic artisan community, so why not bring more of those talented people together? In Fall, 1995, they did it: Organizing 75 handcraft artisans for the very first Scattered Seeds Christmas Craft Show & Sale, held at the Transcona Country Club, in Winnipeg. This event was public, and well advertised, and it was another big success. Almost too big.

"We ran out of parking spaces!" says Shelley. "We blew fuses too — a lot of them. Imagine: All those exhibitors running ovens, lights, Christmas ornaments. We made it work, though, and kept doing it. Every year the show drew more people. We drew more exhibitors. We learned the ins and outs of managing an event like this. We moved to new venues to accommodate it all. Today, we draw about 10,000 people over a three-day period, which is wonderful for us, and for the artisans who work so hard at what they do."

The 2012 Scattered Seeds Christmas Craft Show & Sale will be held at the Red River Exhibition Park, in Winnipeg. It will bring together 170 Canadian artisans, exhibiting their handcrafted wares to thousands of buyers. Many of those buyers will be visiting from outside Manitoba, and even outside Canada.



In the beginning, the scattered seeds were five people. Now, they're all of us.

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EVENT BRINGS TOGETHER CANADA'S FINEST ARTISANAL TALENT

FIND THOUSANDS OF UNIQUE ITEMS AT THE CHRISTMAS CRAFT SHOW & SALE

Books, bath products, jewelry, clothing, delicious food — all hand-made by Canadian artisans. Tempted? You can find these things, plus thousands more unique items, at The Scattered Seeds Christmas Craft Show & Sale.

Scattered Seeds is a three-day event that brings together some of Canada's finest artisanal talent. Because the event is juried, you can be sure that every one of the 170 booths you visit has top-quality wares for sale. You'll find row after row of original gifts, suitable for anyone on your list.

"Hand-made gifts have never lost their lustre," says Shelley Molitowsky, one of the co-founders of the event. "They give us a wonderful sense of tradition."

But the Christmas Craft Show & Sale isn't just about the past. Shelley and her partners are always on the lookout for fresh talent in Canadian craft-making community — whether young, or just young at heart.

"Our goal is to provide a place for any talented artisan's work to be seen," says

Shelley. "The Etsy generation particularly inspires us. I think we inspire them too. We're thrilled to have them as part of our event."

"Put the good old things together with the good new things, and you'll get something special."

PRACTICAL ADVICE YOU CAN TAKE HOME

The Scattered Seeds Christmas Craft Show & Sale is more than a place to find good gifts. It's also your opportunity to learn new things, be entertained, and even win big.

Your ticket entitles you to three days' worth of demonstrations, held onsite, covering various topics. Among them: Christmas snack preparation, cake and cookie decorating, and properly cutting and polishing gemstones. Lasting between 30 minutes and an hour, these demonstrations give you practical advice you can take home.

You'll also be treated to musical interludes throughout the three-day event. Time your breaks right and you'll be able to hear artists such as Cindi Cain, Lexi and Edwin, Al Patterson, and Interchord performing nearby.

If you're feeling lucky, purchase tickets for one of several draws held throughout the weekend. You could win a gingerbread playhouse provided by Habitat for Humanity, or a prize worth $1,000, or even $3,000, both sponsored by Pineridge Hollow.

EASY TO FIND WHAT YOU WANT, WHEN YOU WANT IT

Affordable, flexible, and fun: The Scattered Seeds Christmas Craft Show & Sale is all three, and you can be part of it.

The Christmas Craft Show & Sale happens Friday, Oct. 19, through Sunday, Oct. 21, at the Red River Exhibition Park, just west of Winnipeg. It's easy to find: Just head toward the junction of Portage Avenue West and the Perimeter Hwy, then look for the Assiniboia Downs Race Track. The Exhibition Park is right next door. Parking is available onsite, for a small fee.

The purchase of one ticket entitles you to come and go as you please. If you find there's too much to see or sample in one day (which tends to be the case with this show), simply use the same ticket to gain admission the next day. If you want to browse in the morning, leave for lunch, then return in the afternoon for more shopping, you can do that too. Scattered Seeds makes it easy to find what you want, when you want it.

This year's show is sponsored by Habitat for Humanity, Pineridge Hollow, The Breeze 100.7 FM, QX 104, Energy 106, and Metro.

The Scattered Seeds Christmas Craft Show & Sale will be open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and from noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday. For more information, visit thescatteredseeds.com.

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Location: Teske's Equestrian Centre
1237 McCreary Road

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($380 cash will be awarded should there be no games scheduled for entire season)

2nd Prize: Two Jets Tickets to Home Game (Value $180)
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3rd Prize: Night out Restaurant & Movie Theatre Gift Cards

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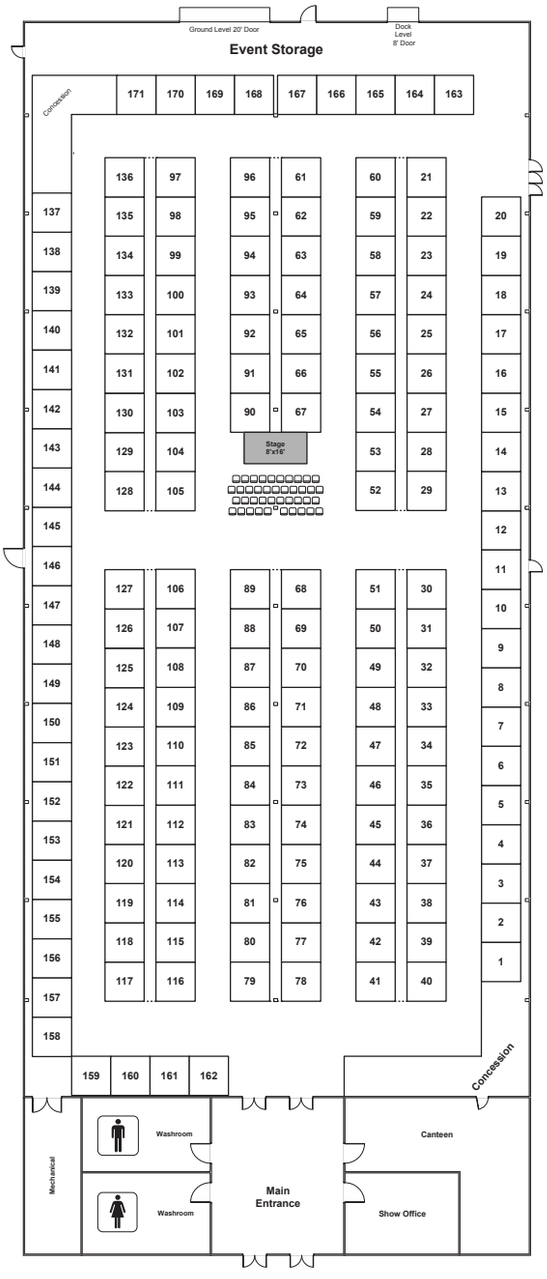

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EXHIBITOR LISTING

BOOTH #1-25
1 Coat Check
2 Perfect Scents Potpourri
3 Life Words
4 Simply Cider
5 Forest of Dreams
6 C'est Danine Designs
7 Name Your Nuts
8 Dolly"s Crystal Creations
9 Linda Marie's Gourmet Toffee
10&11 Swirly Spoons
12 Pure Anada Cosmetics
13 Turnstone Press
14 Royalty Rocks Jewelry
15 Heirloom Clayworks
16 Tasty Tidbits
17&18 Creative Ironworks and Design Ltd
19&20 Designs by S.A.D.
21 Michaud Toys
22&23 Sandi's Fine Designs
24 Jennifer Labella
25 Johanna Brierley

BOOTH #26-50
26 Highgate Dist. Inc
27 Interlake Crafts
28 Serendipity Smile
29 Baileys Concrete Leaves
30 Irene's Soap Co.
31 Storybook Art & Fibre
32 Lynda's Quilts & Design
33 Chatty's Indian Spices Inc
34 Braecrest Design
35 Brambleberry Treasures
36 Faith Hope and Cherrytea
37&38 Pottery by Marlene & Shauns Pottery
39 EMK Clothing
40 Sheltann Studios
41 Calligraphy from the Heart
42 Tin House Designs
43 GlassHouse Designs
44 Wire Works
45 Cloverleaf Art and Fibre
46 Glass By Deesign
47&48 Connie Fadden
49 Dressed'n-case
50 Flying Zebra

BOOTH #51-76
51 Yak—itty-Yaks! By Folio Artwear Designs
52 Blosser Whimsey Carvings
53 Charlotte's Hanging Birdseed
54 The Lady of Bath
55&56 Funky Fleece
57 Over the hill Orchards
58&59 Treasure & Scents
60 Redd Line Jewellery
61&62 Eva Taylor
63 Collen Chamberlin Pottery
64 Echocreations
65&66 Patty M. Kiw Designs
67 The Picnic Basket
68 Quilts & Things
69 Stellar Designs Jewelry
70 Lovalee Creations
71 Driver Works Ink
72 Trails End Buffalo Stix
73 jbirds & sonshine
74 Teekea's Aboriginal Boutique
75&76 Mally Designs Ltd.

BOOTH #77-100
77 Grandma's Kettle Korn
78 Crono Design Inc
79&80 Pressed Wishes
81 Sensational Scarves By Neckorations
82 Connie's Crafts For All Seasons
83 Bob Filiatrault
84 Terry's Intarsia
85 Lit'l Lamb Organic Baby
86 Twin Lakes Stoneworks
87 Raven's Custom Keepsake
88 Sewing Just For You
89 JB Designs
90 Baby Chic Lakeshore
91 Sage & Olivia Jewellery
92 Corinne's Crafts
93 Through Glass Images
94 In Good Taste Food Services
95 Voila par Andreanne
96 Yahoos
97&136 Happy Hippo Bath Co.
98 Fence Post Crafts
99 Little Lady Card Co.
100 The Silver Quail

BOOTH #101-125
101 Smell the Soap
102 Benjamin's
103 Pineridge Hollow
104 A to Z Illusions
105 Common Sense Natural Products
106 T Beach
107 Endeavours Studio & Workshop
108 Princess and Pirate Boutique
109 Unika Cosmetics
110 That Soap Lady
111&112 Country Angel Rustic Décor
113 Lisa Designer Jewels
114 Jan Kushner
115 dconstruct Jewelry
116 Bon Appetit
117 Quicksilver Halo
118 Crafts By James & Melissa
119 EGO picks
120 Kelly Kennedy - Goat Milk Products
121&122 Uniquely Sculptured Glass
123 L and S Soap Series Inc.
124 Creative Clay
125 Hoshii Designs & Soga Soap

BOOTH #126-150
126 Selena's Fabric Creations
127 Raven Creek Farm
128 Cecile Stewart Jewelry
129 Viron Art
130&131 The Wood Boys
132 i29 designs
133 Spa Cakes Soap Company
134&135 Daisy Lane Creations
137&138 Covet Designs
139 Erna's Heating Pads
140&141 Puzzle Master
142 Lamp-Tastic
143 Bavarian Roasted Nuts
144 Swaziland Market
145&146 Chocolate Moose Fudge Factory
147 Best All Surface Organics
148 Willow Wolfe
149 Gewellery by Gina
150 Bella's Gourmet Honey Products

BOOTH #151-171
151&152 The Spice Cabinet
153 Nancy Blokland Pottery
154 Tawny Bee / On the Go Designs
155 The Cookie Lady
156 Snugglywunkins
157 Flossie & Freddie
158 African Market
159&160 Habitat for Humanity
161&162 Scattered Seeds Information Booth
163&164 Sunset Gourmet
165 Cancer Care Mb. Friends of Hope
166 Classic Handcrafted Jewellery
167 Julie Pedersen Design
168 Patti Cakes Inc.
169 Klas Clothing
170 The Horse Connection

Lockout outlook gloomy after NHLPA proposal

NHL. Union offers fall flat, taking air out of optimism for full season

Sidney Crosby, right, leaves a press conference in Toronto on Thursday followed by Shawn Horcoff, centre, and Jarome Iginla. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The NHL labour situation appears grim after an exchange of proposals between the league and the union accomplished little.

The NHL Players' Association rejected an offer from the league that would see revenue split 50–50 between the league and the players.

The union countered with three different proposals, which league commissioner Gary Bettman called "thoroughly disappointing" on Thursday.

"None of the three variations of player share that they gave us even began to approach 50–50, either at all or for some long period of time," Bettman said.

"It's clear we're not speaking the same language."

Union executive director Donald Fehr disagreed, saying two of the proposals would see the players take a fixed amount of revenue, which would turn into an approximate 50–50 split over the term of the deal, provided league revenues continued to grow.

The third approach would be a 50–50 split, as long as the league honoured all existing contracts at full value.

The NHLPA showed up to the meeting with a show of force, including star players Sidney Crosby, Jarome Iginla, Jonathan Toews and Eric Staal. Like the leaders of the two sides, the players did not seem optimistic after the afternoon meeting.

"We came in here today with those proposals thinking that we could really make some progress, and to hear those words (from Bettman) kind of shuts it down pretty quickly," Crosby said. "In a nutshell it doesn't look good."

Bettman said the league's proposal is fair and would allow for an 82-game season to start Nov. 2.

But Fehr said the players could sacrifice nearly $1.8 billion in revenue under the league's proposal.

Fehr said concessions made by the players in the last round of bargaining have cost them $3.3 billion over the term of the last agreement. The players currently get 57 per cent of revenues.

"This is not a good day," Fehr said. "It should have been, but it's not."

Bettman said no new talks are immediately scheduled.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fallout

Crosby more seriously considering Europe

There was simply no way for Sidney Crosby to hide his disappointment.

Just one week after telling The Canadian Press he was confident a deal could be struck that would save the NHL season, the Pittsburgh Penguins captain acknowledged Thursday that he was going to start looking closer at what options might be available to play in Europe.

"A little harder, yeah," said Crosby. "I think that's something that everyone's got to figure out. You try to figure out where things stand, and I don't think they're in a great spot right now."

CFL. Argos' Ray ready to return against Bombers

The Toronto Argonauts have their offensive leader back.

Veteran quarterback Ricky Ray returns under centre Friday when the Argos host the Winnipeg Blue Bombers. It will be Ray's first game since suffering a knee injury early in Toronto's 31–10 loss to Montreal on Sept. 23.

The Bombers trail Hamilton (5–10) and Edmonton (7–8) in the battle for the third and final East Division berth with three weeks remaining in the regular season. The Argos can cement second in the East with a win. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"They're going to try and hit him and that's the way it goes."

Argos coach Scott Milanovich on Ricky Ray's return against the hard-hitting Bombers

Tigers complete ALCS sweep

Game 4

Tigers	Yankees
8	1

Prince Fielder waved his arms frantically, gleefully calling off his teammates before catching the final out.

From the moment Fielder signed his massive contract in January, an entire city had been waiting for a moment like this.

Max Scherzer capped a stupendous stretch for Detroit's starting rotation, and the Tigers advanced to the World Series, beating the New York Yankees 8–1 Thursday for a four-game sweep of the ALCS.

Miguel Cabrera and Jhonny Peralta hit two-run homers in a four-run fourth inning against CC Sabathia, who was unable to prevent the Yankees from getting swept.

"Yeah, we did it," Cabrera said. "It's an unbelievable feeling.... Four more wins, guys. Four more wins."

Scherzer took a no-hit bid into the sixth against a Yankees team that hit .188 in the postseason and .157 in the LCS. New York went quietly in the ninth inning, the last three batters shut down in order.

The Tigers have five days off before the World Series starts Wednesday at defending champion St. Louis or San Francisco. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Horoscopes

Aries
March 21 - April 20
There may be an element of truth in what others are saying about you today, so don't just ignore it. You're not too old to learn and the best kind of learning is the kind that increases your self-awareness.

Taurus
April 21 - May 21
A rather tense day is possible and, just this once, you may have no option but to confront someone you don't get along with. Where some issues are concerned, there can be no middle ground. Fight to win.

Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Daydreaming can be a lot of fun but don't let it keep you from doing what you should be doing. Routine tasks may be boring but they must be done and they must be done well, so get on with it.

Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Do not be offended if a loved one wants to spend some time alone. They have some serious inner issues to deal with and the only way they can do that is to isolate themselves from outside influences.

Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
There is no point getting angry about what happens today. All you can do is let fate take its course and hope it leads you somewhere worth going. Don't take your frustrations out on those who care for you.

Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Give yourself permission to try new things. Don't worry that others might say you are being irresponsible. If you can dream it, you can do it — it's as simple as that. Maybe that's what they are afraid of.

Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You will get the chance to get rid of something that is holding you back from fulfilling your potential. Take it or you may look back in a few weeks and wish you had been a bit more adventurous.

Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Someone has let you down and your first reaction will be to do something nasty to them in return. If you get into the revenge business, you could start a feud that never ends.

Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
The depth of your feelings may be making you uncomfortable but there is no point pretending they do not exist. No matter how hard you try to deny them, they will bounce back even stronger.

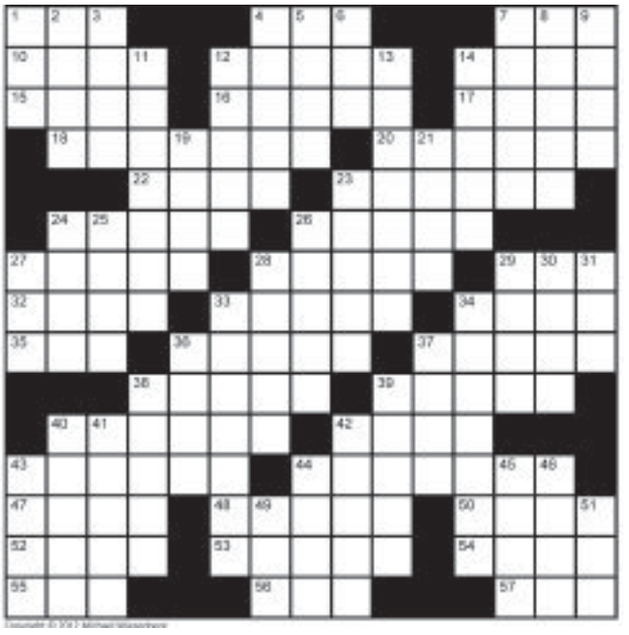
Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You won't be pleased if someone treats your concerns in a flippant manner but try not to overreact. When all is said and done, there are more important things on which you should be spending your precious time and energy.

Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You are a force to be reckoned with and anyone who does not believe that now will be made to believe it when the Sun changes signs on the 23rd. You have big plans, plans that will soon turn into realities.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
No matter how much others may mock your beliefs, you intend to stick with them. Deep down, your critics know they are the ones who are on the wrong track. That's why they think you're so dangerous. The truth hurts. **SALLY BROMPTON**

A Little French

BY MICHAEL WIESENBERG



Across
1. Common conjunctions
4. Meadow
7. Morning times, for short
10. Night: Fr.
12. Whole grains add this to a diet
14. *Elizabeth* star Blanchett
15. Nobel peace prize presentation site
16. Brain sections
17. Angel: Fr.
18. Tim ___
20. Margot ___: Yellowknife-born Lois Lane portrayer in four Superman movies
22. Cinnabar and hematite
23. Gasoline units
24. Movie theatres: Fr.
26. Leg: Fr.
27. Robson et Logan, par exemple
28. Birch bark boat
29. Broadcaster based in Toronto
32. River through Florence
33. Nickels-and-___: bothers with trivialities
34. Took care of an IOU
35. ___ and outs
36. Heads: Fr.
37. Ladies: Fr.
38. Bank repositories
39. More adorable
40. Cinnamon and saffron
42. Act a bit vexed
43. BC fisherman's pursuit
44. Fries, cheese, and gravy dish
47. Another word for margarine
48. British spy novelist John Le ___ (*The Spy Who Came in From the Cold*; *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy)* (the pseudonymous last name means "the square" in French)
50. Consumes
52. "Terrible" Russian leader
53. Common form of communication
54. A little tight
55. "Au secours!"
56. CPR expert: initialism
57. Canada's most populous prov.

Down
1. Sean Lennon's mother Yoko
2. Toronto-based "Tom Sawyer" group
3. Farm storage site
4. Vancouver CFL Team
5. Diminishes
6. Exist
7. *Biography* cable channel (3 wds.)
8. Homeowners' loans: abbr.
9. Crystal ball gazer
11. Canada's largest city
12. Floating ice sheets
13. Edmonton's CFL team
14. Core group of trained personnel
19. Very: Fr.
21. "Let ___": Beatles album and song (2 wds.)
23. Country roads
24. Cob covering
25. Overnight stops
26. "Bond, ___ Bond"
27. Après Avril
28. Gives a ticket
29. Arrived
30. Coffin support
31. Audiophile's collection
33. Football side that doesn't have the ball
34. Hamburgers-to-be
36. Mexican restaurant fare
37. Composition for two
38. ___ and Garfunkel
39. Brutal
40. Artillery burst
41. "Guilty" and "not guilty"
42. 'You're asking ___!" (2 wds.)
43. Je ___: I am (in French)
44. Baby buggy, to Brits
45. Small iPod model
46. Vingt- ___: blackjack, from French for "21" (2 wds.)
49. Soul: Fr.
51. Can. Army rank

Yesterday's Crossword

What's online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

4		7		3	5			2
	1		9					7
	5		2				4	
8							6	
		2	5		3	9		
	9							1
	4				8		2	
1					9		3	
6			3	5		4		

Yesterday's Sudoku

Weather

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
MAX: 8° MIN: 4°	MAX: 11° MIN: 1°	MAX: 16° MIN: 2°

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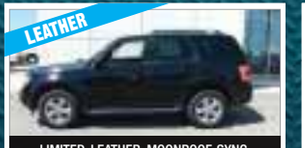

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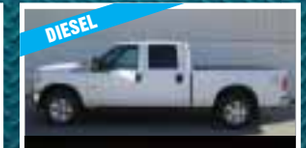

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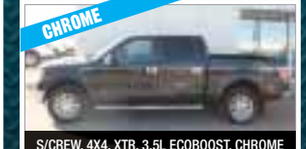

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